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ARAB TIMES

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NO. 7482 TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 1989 RAJAB 8, 1409 AH 18 PAGES 150 FILLS

Store managers blame suppliers

Alarming rise in food prices

By Diane Diaz

THE costs of food and other basic necessities are on the rise in Kuwait, with some prices jumping by as much as 33 per cent over last year.

Kuwait's co-operative societies, supermarkets and small neighbourhood shops have uniformly hiked prices on hundreds of consumer goods over the past few months and the trend is likely to continue, according to several store managers.

"It's a dramatic increase for this year," said Mitri Kraimasty, store manager of Safeway in Farwaniya. "If you take the overall prices in the store, including cans, pet food and appliances, prices are up at least five to 10 per cent from last year."

Raise

A few examples from Safeway: tomato paste has gone up from 30 fils last year to 40 fils this year, an increase of 33 per cent. Kuwait Danish Dairy (KDD) milk in the one litre carton has gone up from 230 fils to 255 fils, an increase of 10 per cent. Price of facial tissue has gone up from 280 fils to 310 fils.

Canned mushrooms, sugar, laundry detergent, and KDD juice are among scores of other items that have gone up in price recently.

"It's not a situation of stores simply wanting to increase prices," Kraimasty explained. "We have to raise prices when the

cost of food goes up."

Safeway is not alone.

"The customer sees the price increase is all over," said Raid Sultan, store manager of the Sultan Center.

Prices in the Sultan Center are up by about 10 per cent over last year, he said.

"Some items are up five to eight per cent. Some are more, as high as 15 per cent," Sultan said. But, he quickly added, it is not the store's fault.

"It's the suppliers, not us," he said. "We have to follow them. If they raise their prices, we have to raise our prices."

Profit

Kraimasty of Safeway made a similar observation.

"Suppliers can easily go down in the amount they charge for products made in Kuwait," Kraimasty said. "Suppliers need to understand. They should try to reduce their profit margin."

However, prices continue to rise and no one knows where they will stop.

"I can't foresee what will happen in the coming weeks or months," Kraimasty said. "But for now it just continues to go up."

Managers of co-operative societies were not as forthcoming with information about their price increases.

"This is a secret of the supermarket," said the manager of the Adalya Co-op. But several men who stock the shelves in the co-ops say the hikes are not new.

"All the markets are like this,"

said one co-op employee. "They raise it 10 fils or 15 fils at a time. It's not much, but the prices go up every few months."

As an example, he pointed to a tin of Nido. Nestle powder milk. "That was 900 fils three months ago," he said. "Now it costs KD 1.060."

"That's a 19 per cent increase," he added.

A customer said the price of Mazola corn oil has risen by 300 fils. A gallon of Mazola oil at present costs KD 1.880. The price was 1.580 very recently.

While increases of five and 10 fils are not as noticeable as increases of 100 fils or more, customers are starting to complain about the overall difference this makes to their pocketbooks.

Expensive

"It's too expensive. I can always see the prices increase. I don't know exactly how much. Twenty dinar buys nothing anymore," complained one Filipina maid while waiting to pay for soaps and creams in the Adalya Co-op.

"For the same things we are gradually paying more and more," said Nargis Gabriel, a shopper in the Samiya Co-op. "Sometimes there is a big skip and suddenly we are paying 25 per cent more. Like meat. It doesn't depend on season but sometimes there's a 100 fils jump. The same piece will go from 340 fils to 440 fils. That's 29 per cent."

(Continued on Page 2)

Issues with Iraq will be solved: Sheikh Saad

KUWAIT, Feb 13, (KUNA): HH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah said today that his visit to Iraq was successful.

Speaking to a delegation of the Kuwait Women's Cultural and Social Society, Sheikh Saad said that his visit to Iraq emanated from Kuwait's desire to enhance co-operation between the two countries.

Hope

He added: "Some issues might still be outstanding, but I am optimistic that with constant contacts and dialogue with our brothers in Iraq these problems will be solved."

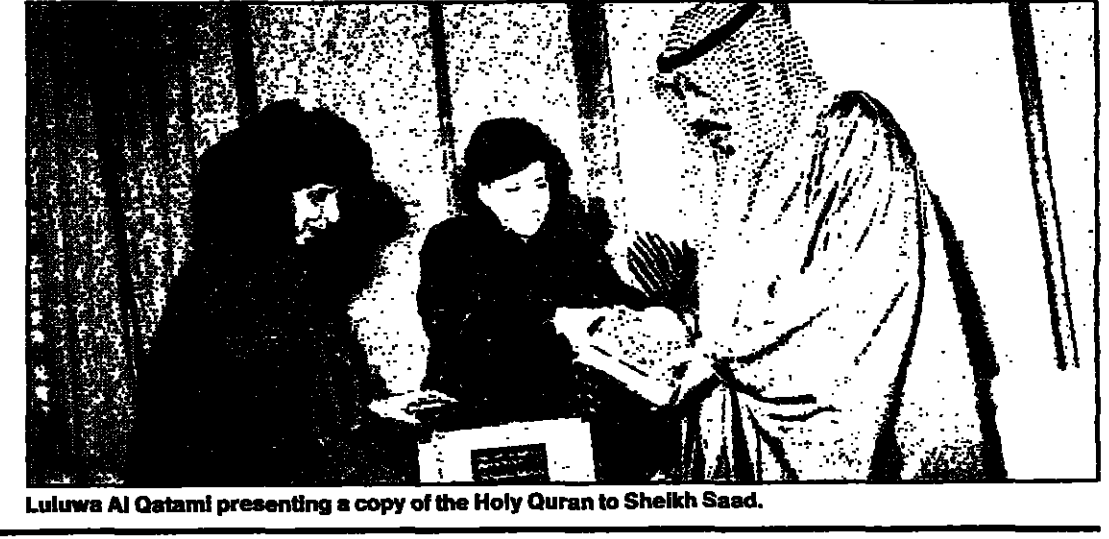
Sheikh Saad pointed out that Kuwait was still facing several crises. But he expressed hope

that, with unity at the home front, the country will eventually overcome all the problems.

He recalled the contributions made by Kuwaiti women in the development and progress of Kuwait in the cultural and educational fields. He praised Kuwaiti women for their active role.

He said: "While we celebrate our National Day, we have to remember our past and our ancestors. We should proceed on the same path paved by the heroes of the past."

The women's delegation was headed by Luluwa Al Qatami, the chairperson of the society. The delegation presented a copy of the Holy Quran to Sheikh Saad.



Luluwa Al Qatami presenting a copy of the Holy Quran to Sheikh Saad.

Deng praises Benazir's policy of reconciliation

BEIJING, Feb 13, (Agencies): Chinese leader Deng Xiaoping today praised Pakistani Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto for not taking revenge on her political foes, in an apparent attempt to erase memories of China's ties with her predecessor Zia-ul-Haq.

Deng, a survivor of two political purges during China's Cultural Revolution (1966-76), met Benazir in Shanghai and applauded her for promising a policy of reconciliation in Pakistan, the official New China News Agency reported.

"Various political parties in Pakistan and the Pakistan people are all our friends. I hope they get united to develop Pakistan instead of haggling over past resentment," the agency quoted Deng as saying.

Forging

"Benazir's father Zulfikar Ali Bhutto was in the 1960s and 1970s largely responsible for forging the close alliance between China and Pakistan, before being ousted in 1977 by Zia and eventually executed."

Chinese leaders nevertheless maintained an extremely friendly relationship with Zia until his death in a plane crash last year.

In his meeting with Benazir today, Deng pointed out that her father had been a friend of Mao Tse-tung and enjoyed a "special relationship" with late Chinese Premier Chou En-Lai, the agency reported.

"I personally have had contacts with your family for a long time," Deng said.

"All parties and successive governments of Pakistan adhere to having friendly relations with China. Sino-Pakistan friendship is eternal," the report quoted Deng as saying. It did not mention Zia by name.

Benazir told Deng today that both countries needed stability and peace and that his pragmatic economic reforms had "brought changes to the whole world."

Glad

Deng, 84, told Benazir: "I am very glad to meet the youngest woman prime minister in the world," the agency said.

President Yang Shangkun said during an earlier meeting with the Pakistani leader that her choice of China for her first official overseas trip since her election testified to the good relations between the two countries.

Benazir, who arrived in China on Saturday, left Shanghai this



evening to return to Pakistan.

Benazir told a news conference yesterday that she and the Chinese shared concerns over the future of Afghanistan.

But she insisted that Pakistan cannot interfere in the bitter disputes among Afghan guerrilla factions.

However, Benazir later confirmed to Western reporters that she met in Beijing with Iran's Ambassador to China, Alaeddin Broujerdi, and discussed the disputes between Pakistan-based Afghan guerrillas and those based in Iran.

Afghan rebel commander lashes out at politicians

PESHAWAR, Pakistan, Feb 13, (Agencies): A top rebel mujahideen commander says Afghanistan's agony is being prolonged by squabbling politicians more interested in fame and fortune than in their country.

"We, the military commanders, did our job. We defeated the enemy," said Abdul Haq, the leading commander of rebel forces around Kabul.

"Now, the politicians should do their job and find a political solution," he said in an interview with Reuters at his headquarters in the Pakistani frontier city Peshawar.

The problem with politicians always has been that they are out to enrich themselves and make themselves famous," said Abdul Haq, a bearded, burly man wounded 15 times fighting the Soviet forces in his country.

the politicians cannot find unity," he said.

Diplomatic analysts monitoring the Afghan conflict say there is rising tension between the commanders, who have been fighting the war, and the politicians, who have been watching it from exile in Pakistan and Iran.

Fuelling mujahideen leaders resumed formal discussions today on the composition of a government that would take control of Kabul's communist leadership was ousted.

The shura, reconvened late today amid threats by moderate rebel groups that they would walk out if hardline Muslims try to put their candidates in control or if Iran-based Afghan fighters are excluded from the council.

Struggled

There were no details yet from the meeting of the seven Pakistan-based guerrilla parties, which struggled over the weekend to settle disputes that flared when the 526-delegate shura convened its inaugural session for 20 minutes Friday.

The disputes centred on the role to be played by Shiite Muslim rebels, who represent about two million refugees and rebels based in Iran. The more powerful Pakistan-based factions, representing about three million Afghans in Pakistan, come from Afghanistan's majority Sunni Muslim sect.

Iranian President Ali Khamenei said today the Afghan mujahideen should implement a

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- یخزدی لینڈ میں شعیب محمد
- اور میاں دادی بچریاں

Syria and EEC want total Israeli pullout

DAMASCUS, Feb 13, (Reuters): Syrian and European Economic Community envoys joined today in calling for an Israeli withdrawal from all occupied Arab territory as an essential condition for peace, a Syrian minister reported.

This included withdrawal from the Golan Heights, annexed by Israel after it captured the area from Syria in 1967, Syrian Foreign Minister Farouk Al Shara said.

The Jewish state also captured the West Bank from Jordan and Gaza Strip from Egypt but has not annexed them.

"We agreed that a solution (to the Arab-Israeli conflict) must lead to a total Israeli withdrawal from all occupied Arab territories," Shara said.

Mandate

He was speaking at a news conference after talks between President Hafez Al Assad and Foreign Ministers Francisco Fernandez Ordonez of Spain, Roland Dumas of France and Karolos Papoulias of Greece.

Syria was the third Arab state

visited by the ministers with a mandate to sound out views on how to work for peace in the region. They report to the EEC council of ministers tomorrow.

"Our conclusion is that there is a room for hope, some possibility to push forward the process of peace," Fernandez Ordonez said when asked the outcome of the tour.

They also met PLO chairman Yasser Arafat in Madrid and two of the ministers visited Israel.

Asked if Syria would take part in an international peace conference if Israel did not withdraw from the Golan Heights, Shara told reporters:

"It is impossible to think of peace in the region without the total Israeli withdrawal from the Golan Heights and the rest of the occupied Arab territories."

He said that before an international conference, Israel should announce it was ready to withdraw from all occupied territories.

Israel rejects an international conference and calls for direct peace talks with Arab states.

(Continued on Page 2)

GCC population to reach 27.8 million by year 2000

MANAMA, Feb 13, (Agencies): A regional study today forecast an increase of nine million in the collective population of the member states of the Gulf Co-operation Council by the turn of the century.

The Gulf News Agency said figures compiled by Bahrain's Central Statistical Agency said the collective population in the six states will rise to 19,535 million next year, 23,226 by 1995 and 27.860 by the year 2000.

The GCC was born in 1981 and the present population was estimated by the study at 18.6 million.

Increase

It estimated the average annual rate of GCC population increase until 1990 at 3.63 per cent, dropping to 3.29 per cent in the next five years and to 3.2 until the end of the century.

Saudi Arabia is the most populated country among the

GCC states. The study said the kingdom's population four years ago was 11,240 million, and expected it to reach 13,506 million by 1990, 16,50 million by 1995 and 18,864 at the turn of the century.

Population figures by 1990 in the five other GCC states were estimated at 2,188 million for Kuwait, 503,000 for Bahrain, 1,544 million for the UAE, 1,430 million for Oman and 354,000 for Qatar.

Growth rate

Kuwait's population will reach about three million by the end of this century, the study said.

The study added the population growth rate in Kuwait will drop from 4.7 per cent at present to 3.33 per cent between 1990 and 1995 and to 2.78 per cent in 2,000.

Kuwait has the highest population growth rate among the GCC states, while Qatar (3.24 per cent) has the lowest.

Riots over The Satanic Verses spread to Kashmir

SRINAGAR, Feb 13, (UPI): Muslim fundamentalists enraged by the publication of a book deemed offensive to Islam rioted today and police fired teargas and bullets to quell clashes that left at least one person dead and more than 100 injured, police said.

The fatality brought to six the number of people killed since yesterday in protests by Islamic militants in Pakistan and India over the recent release in the United States of "The Satanic Verses," a novel by Indian-born author Salman Rushdie.

Today's violence in Srinagar, the summer capital of India's northern Jammu and Kashmir state, erupted during a strike called by Muslim fundamentalist organisations to demand that the US join a number of other nations in banning the book regarded as blasphemous.

The work stoppage was reported near-total in many Muslim areas of the state with road blocks erected in a number of locations and several state-owned buses stoned for plying in defiance of the strike.

Demonstration

About 45 police officers and some 75 demonstrators were injured during the unrest.

The violence came a day after five people were killed and 60 others wounded during a demonstration "in front of the US cultural centre in the Pakistani capital of Islamabad."

Police said they believed the

protests in Jammu and Kashmir were provoked after residents, who can receive Pakistani television, saw pictures of the Islamabad demonstration on last night's news broadcast.

In Islamabad and Rawalpindi merchants and businessmen observed a half-day afternoon strike to protest yesterday's police action, and more than 4,000 people marched in a funeral procession for the five dead.

Witnesses said some of the marchers in Rawalpindi stoned shops, banks and hotels which did not observe the strike, forcing them to close.

Violence

The strike and march were organised by the Movement for the Protection of the Honour of the Prophet, which staged yesterday's demonstration. Maulana Kausar Niazi, a former minister in charge of yesterday's rally said: "Police mishandled the situation and initiated the violence."

Rushdie "was devastated by the news" of the violence, Clare Harrington, a spokeswoman for Penguin Books in London, said today. "We too are very saddened, but we stand by the book."

"The deaths are not on my conscience," Rushdie was quoted in today's editions of the Times of London. "I am a writer trying to deal with real issues. I have not arranged any marches on embassies or arranged for any shots to be fired."

Israel cannot quell uprising, says Kuwait

UNITED NATIONS, Feb 13, (KUNA): Kuwait warned today that Israel's harsh measures against the Palestinians in the occupied territories would not be able to "extinguish the flames of struggle" or force the Palestinian people to capitulate.

Addressing the Security Council, Kuwaiti Ambassador Mohammad Abulhasan said the results of these practices have been just the opposite: "The more repressive Israel becomes, the stronger the resistance becomes, the more varied the means employed by the enemy, the more innovative the Palestinian people becomes in its struggle and resistance."

The Kuwaiti envoy spoke on the second day of a three-day debate on developments in the occupied territories requested by the Arab states with the support of the non-aligned countries.

Abulhasan described the uprising as a "far-reaching phenomenon" that has breathed new life into the Arab nation.

Surprise visit

ALGIERS, Feb 13, (Reuters): President Chadli Benjedid left Algeria today for a surprise visit to Libyan leader Muammar Khaddafi — two days ahead of a planned North African summit in the ancient Moroccan town of Marrakesh.

A two-line statement issued by the official APS news agency said Chadli had left Algiers on a visit to Tripoli.

France made no deal to release gunman

PARIS, Feb 13, (UPI): President Francois Mitterrand has denied Iranian claims that France promised to pardon a jailed Lebanese gunman to help secure the release of French hostages last year.

"It is up to Iran to prove its claim that France has neglected its obligations," Mitterrand said in a nationally televised interview.

Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati said last week that France had agreed to pardon Anis Naccache in exchange for Iranian help in securing the release of French hostages from Lebanon.

Naccache was jailed after the attempted assassination in Paris nine years ago of former Iranian Premier Shahpour Bakhtiar.

Mitterrand said he asked former Prime Minister Jacques Chirac, whose government

negotiated the release of some hostages from Beirut, to spell out any obligations France had accepted during those negotiations.

"The only obligation was the renewal of diplomatic relations," Mitterrand said in his second television interview since his re-election last summer.

Asked whether there was any possibility that he might still pardon Naccache, Mitterrand said there were no immediate plans to release him.

Mitterrand said it was "a tough call" to renew relations with the Iranian government, which is accused of systematic torture, but also defended his decision to improve ties with Tehran.

Foreign Minister Roland Dumas returned last week from a trip to Iran, during which he met with Velayati.

Velayati holds talks in Oman

NICOSIA, Feb 13, (Agencies): Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati discussed relations between Iran and Gulf Arab states with Oman's State Minister for Foreign Affairs, Youssef Bin Alawi, today, the Oman news agency reported.

"Views were exchanged on the situation in the Gulf region, relations between Iran and members of the Gulf Co-operation Council (GCC) and the future of the region," the agency quoted Velayati as saying.

Velayati, visiting Oman yesterday on his way home from New York where he held peace talks with Iraq at the United Nations, also said he and Alawi discussed forming a joint commercial and economic committee, but the agency gave no further details.

Alawi added that Velayati briefed him on his recent talks in New York and a number of European states.

Iran's relations with several of Oman's GCC partners were strained during the eight-year Gulf war because of their support of Iraq, but tensions have eased since a ceasefire took effect last August.

ARAB TIMES

Grand Bingo

BOTH the Second and Third Full House prizes have been won. Miss Jayana Charles will receive KD 60 and Mrs Daisy Fernandes KD 40 for the Second and Third Full Houses respectively. The answer to the clue is 89.

WEATHER

PARTLY cloudy weather with moderate north-westerly wind. State of sea: moderate. High water: 7.00 am, 5.00 pm. Low water: 11.30 am. Sunrise: 6.30 am. Sunset: 5.36 pm. Maximum temperatures recorded: Kuwait: 17°C 63°F. Ahmadi: 16°C 61°F. Falaika: 16°C 61°F. Minimum temperatures recorded: Kuwait: 6°C 43°F. Ahmadi: 13°C 55°F. Falaika: 12°C 54°F. Maximum temperatures expected: Kuwait: 16°C 61°F. Ahmadi: 15°C 59°F. Falaika: 15°C 59°F. Maximum humidity recorded: Kuwait: 82 per cent. Ahmadi: 50 per cent. Falaika: 80 per cent.

INTERNATIONAL

Denmark tells Baker to delay nuclear missile decision

OSLO, Feb 13, (Reuters): US Secretary of State James Baker was warned by Denmark today not to press for an early decision on modernising NATO's short-range nuclear missiles.

Baker, who met Danish Foreign Minister Uffe Ellemann-Jensen in Copenhagen before continuing to Norway, was to return later in the day to West Germany where a crisis over the modernisation proposal was brewing.

"We in Denmark agree with West Germany that it's not a problem which needs a major decision now," Ellemann-Jensen told reporters after 90 minutes of talks with Baker.

Views

"It would not be wise to put pressure on the West Germans," he said "it creates problems with West Germany, it creates problems with the Danes."

Baker, who came to office on Jan 20 with President George Bush, was in Copenhagen and Oslo as part of an eight-day 15-

country tour of NATO capitals. US officials had little comment on Baker's last night talks in Bonn with Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher about the West German views on short-range nuclear missiles.

But a crucial discussion was expected tonight when Baker returns to Bonn for a meeting and dinner with Chancellor Helmut Kohl.

The United States and Britain want to move quickly on modernising the short-range Lance nuclear missiles, most of which are based in West Germany. But Kohl said last week that a NATO decision should be delayed about two years.

It is widely expected the United States and Britain will seek a compromise rather than apply pressure. They know Kohl is politically vulnerable following a recent Berlin election in which his coalition government lost ground.

Some Germans believe the 88 Lance missiles based in Europe

should be scrapped or be a subject of negotiations with Moscow. But Baker said yesterday the United States continued to believe it was inadvisable to negotiate the SNF issue.

Baker said after his meeting with Ellemann-Jensen only that the two ministers "touched upon the SNF (Short-range Nuclear Forces) issue in the context of the comprehensive concept."

The comprehensive concept is a proposed NATO strategy for dealing with the proposals of Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev, which are attracting popular support in Western Europe.

Baker said he and Ellemann-Jensen had also discussed port calls by American nuclear ships. He gave no details but said: "There were no major differences between us in that regard."

There is wide popular support in Denmark for creating a nuclear-free zone in Europe, which the United States has strongly opposed.

Call for free press in Iran

NICOSIA, Feb 13, (AP): Iran's only opposition party to legally survive the entire post-revolutionary period has demanded that the government allow opposition newspapers and provide the security needed for open political activity.

The Iran Freedom Movement Party expressed the hope that the decision to finally allow parties seven years after the law was passed, was a real move toward democratisation, reported the Islamic Republic News Agency.

"For the sake of Iran's well-being, we hope the government will pass this crucial test... there exists no other path," the group said in a statement quoted by IRNA.

The party is headed by former Premier Mehdi Bazargan, 81, and his assistants Yadollah Sahabi, Ibrahim Yazdi and Farid Alam. The four said they were preparing the documents needed for legal recognition.

"We will participate in the presidential elections and any other elections provided the existence of a free climate," Yazdi was quoted as saying.

Yazdi said the group was not opposed to the rule of the Islamic clergy, a charge that had been levelled against it.

"Provided a free press, freedom of gathering and freedom of thought, we will not turn our backs," he said.

The presidential elections, the fifth since the 1979 Islamic revolution, are scheduled for this summer.

Meanwhile, Tehran University has introduced a noticeboard on which students are free to criticise the government, IRNA said today.

Letters critical of the government outnumbered those praising it on the noticeboard set up at Tehran University medical school last November, IRNA reported.

Lawyer quits

JOHANNESBURG, Feb 13, (Reuters): A leading liberal lawyer said today he no longer acted for Winnie Mandela, the anti-apartheid campaigner at the centre of a heated controversy over her unofficial bodyguards.

Drivers strike

MANILA, Feb 13, (AP): Drivers of the passenger jeeps that are Manila's most popular form of public transport walked off the job today, stranding commuters in the morning, but the strike fizzled after police arrested their leader and 11 others.

Traffic was reported to be nearly normal as the afternoon rush hour began.

Condemned

His death was firmly condemned by Irish Foreign Minister Brian Lenihan and Britain's Northern Ireland Minister Tom King.

King said: "The deaths of every one of the seven people murdered this year, some by the IRA, others by loyalist extremists, show the total futility and awfulness of killing."

Republican and nationalist politicians both attacked

suspected of involvement in the beating and killing last March of two British soldiers who apparently strayed into the path of an Irish Republican Army guerrilla's funeral.

Police said the gunmen had hijacked a taxi from a Protestant area, drove to Finucane's house in north Belfast and shot him in the body and head. The taxi was later found abandoned.

Finucane, a civil rights activist for Northern Ireland's Catholic minority in the early 1970s, was the seventh person killed in the province's sectarian and political conflict this year.

The inquest into the deaths of three suspected Irish nationalist guerrillas shot dead in 1983 was halted and then scrapped after Finucane went to the Northern Ireland High Court demanding police be forced to testify.

He also succeeded in having charges dropped against a man

Gunmen kill Belfast lawyer

BELFAST, Feb 13, (Reuters): Two gunmen yesterday burst into the Belfast home of a prominent Catholic lawyer and shot him dead in front of his young children.

Police said the killing of Patrick Finucane had all the hallmarks of a shooting by Protestant paramilitary extremists.

In an attack condemned by both the British and Irish governments, the gunmen also wounded Finucane's Protestant wife, Geraldine. She was shot in the ankle.

Halted

Finucane was recently involved in a controversial inquest that centred on allegations of a "shoot-to-kill" policy by Northern Ireland police against Irish nationalist guerrillas.

The inquest into the deaths of three suspected Irish nationalist guerrillas shot dead in 1983 was halted and then scrapped after Finucane went to the Northern Ireland High Court demanding police be forced to testify.

He also succeeded in having charges dropped against a man

Hungary approves formation of multi-party political system

BUDAPEST, Feb 13, (UPI): Communist Party leader Karoly Grosz said authorities have approved formation of a multi-party political system in Hungary.

The central committee decided that it conceives the further development of political pluralism in the organisational structure of the multi-party system," Grosz said in comments published yesterday by the official MTI news agency.

Grosz said the decision was made during a closed-door, two-day party conference that concluded Saturday.

The communist leader did not indicate the extent to which the party, which has ruled for 40 years, would be willing to give up its monopoly on power. But Grosz said that communists would have to win popular support to govern.

Sharing political power with opposition parties has been unprecedented in the Soviet bloc.

Grosz said any new party must respect the law, declaring, "if they do not accept the (socialist) constitution, they cannot operate legally."

A loosening of the Communist Party's political hold on the nation began last November, when authorities permitted formation of a Social Democratic Party and operation of another

small independent party. Each has a few thousand members while the Communist Party has about 800,000 members.

But the non-communist political groups have not yet been permitted to field candidates in a national election.

Independent sources in Budapest said authorities are planning to legalise at least three new parties — the Peasant, Radical and Hungarian Democratic Forum.

"I do not believe that the multi-party system in itself is the guarantee for preventing errors (such as the Stalinist dictatorship that led to the 1956 uprising)," he said. "(But) I see greater possibility in the multi-party system for making fewer errors, as the parties will be far more under the control of each other."

Debate

The party conference, which concluded on Saturday, also discussed the 1956 uprising that was crushed by Russian tanks.

The Communist Party has held that uprising was a "counter-revolution" aimed at restoring the old order.

The unprecedented debate on the uprising, one of the most bitter episodes in Hungarian history, was precipitated by a statement from Politburo member Imre Pozsgay on Jan 28 that the 1956 incident was actually a

popular revolt.

"The party will not force anybody by resolution to change his view," said Emil Kimmel, deputy spokesman for the central committee, adding the conference "... did not accept nor endorse the qualification of 1956 as a popular uprising..."

The revolution began on Oct 23, 1956 and led to a temporary withdrawal of Soviet forces from Hungary.

Then Prime Minister Imre Nagy declared the country's neutrality a few days after the beginning of the uprising, and the Soviet Army invaded Hungary in November. More than 2,000 people died during two weeks of heavy fighting.

Granted

Another 500 people were executed for their part in the uprising and most of them lie in unmarked graves. Only recently has the government granted relatives of the deceased permission to give the remains a proper burial.

An article in the Soviet Communist Party newspaper Pravda on Saturday suggested a "middle road" approach to the debate about 1956, saying both views — that the disturbances were as strictly a counter-revolution, or as a popular uprising — are extremist approaches.

In support of protesting prisoners

Boesak goes on hunger strike

JOHANNESBURG, Feb 13, (Agencies): South African civil rights leader Allan Boesak announced today he was going on an indefinite hunger strike in support of 300 prisoners protesting against their detention without trial.

"None of us wants to die. But if this is the road we must take to make you and your government understand the evil of your ways, we will take it," Boesak said in an open letter to Law and Order Minister Adriaan Vlok.

Boesak, president of the World Reformed Council of Churches, said he had taken the decision "not gladly, not without pain, certainly with fear and trembling. But I know now what God wants me to do."

Pressure "I date not think of the consequences for the country, if anyone should begin to die in hospital. It is that more than anything else that has made me decide to join the hunger strikers," Boesak told Visnews, the international TV agency.

The coloured civil rights leader called on foreign governments to bring pressure on South Africa to accede to the demands of the hunger strikers that detainees either be charged or released without delay.

At least 11 of the longest-serving hunger strikers are now in hospital, and supporters say some are now seriously ill after refusing food for 20 days.

The prisoners, some in detention for more than 31 months, have been taking only liquid with a little sugar and salt.

Symbolic

The government has stood firm against the action, possibly the most sweeping hunger strike in South African history. Vlok told parliament last week he would not be blackmailed by the actions of prisoners in Johannesburg and Port Elizabeth.

Boesak said he had agreed to meet a group of more than 40 lawyers who represent the hunger striking detainees later today. The lawyers staged a symbolic

48-hour fast last week after saying they had despaired of representing their clients by judicial means.

The government, demonstrating its tough stance against the hunger strike campaign, announced at the weekend it had banned all meetings protesting against detention without trial.

A police spokesman said the authorities were considering the prosecution under the country's emergency laws of some South African media over their reporting of the campaign.

Doctors monitoring the health of the detainees said today the longest-serving strikers were now entering the most critical stage of their fast.

Traces of dioxin, one of the world's most toxic substances, have been found in some British products such as tampons and tea bags, according to a British television report today.

Afghan rebel commander lashes out ...

(Continued from Page 1) pact reached in Iran last week by the two alliances.

Soviet withdrawal, continued with the departure of 15 bemedalled Soviet paratroopers aboard an Antonov-12 transport plane from Kabul airport. About 450 men left yesterday.

A Soviet Lieutenant Colonel, Pyotr Sardarchuk, said he and a small group of other Soviet soldiers would stay behind to supervise an airlift of flour to Kabul.

But he said all the men would leave before Wednesday, the deadline for all Soviet troops to withdraw from Afghanistan under UN-sponsored accords signed in Geneva last April.

Alarming rise in food prices

(Continued from Page 1)

"But what shall we do?" Gabriel asked, then she quickly answered her own question. "Of course we have to buy. We have no choice."

One Kuwaiti man shopping in the Adaliya Co-op said he has been trying to ask about the price increases for months.

"I think it's up by 20 per cent of what it used to be, at least," said Saleh Al Shaysi. "I don't see any reason for it. People still need to buy the same things. The consumption is the same. I just want to see a reason."

Syria and EEC want total ...

(Continued from Page 1)

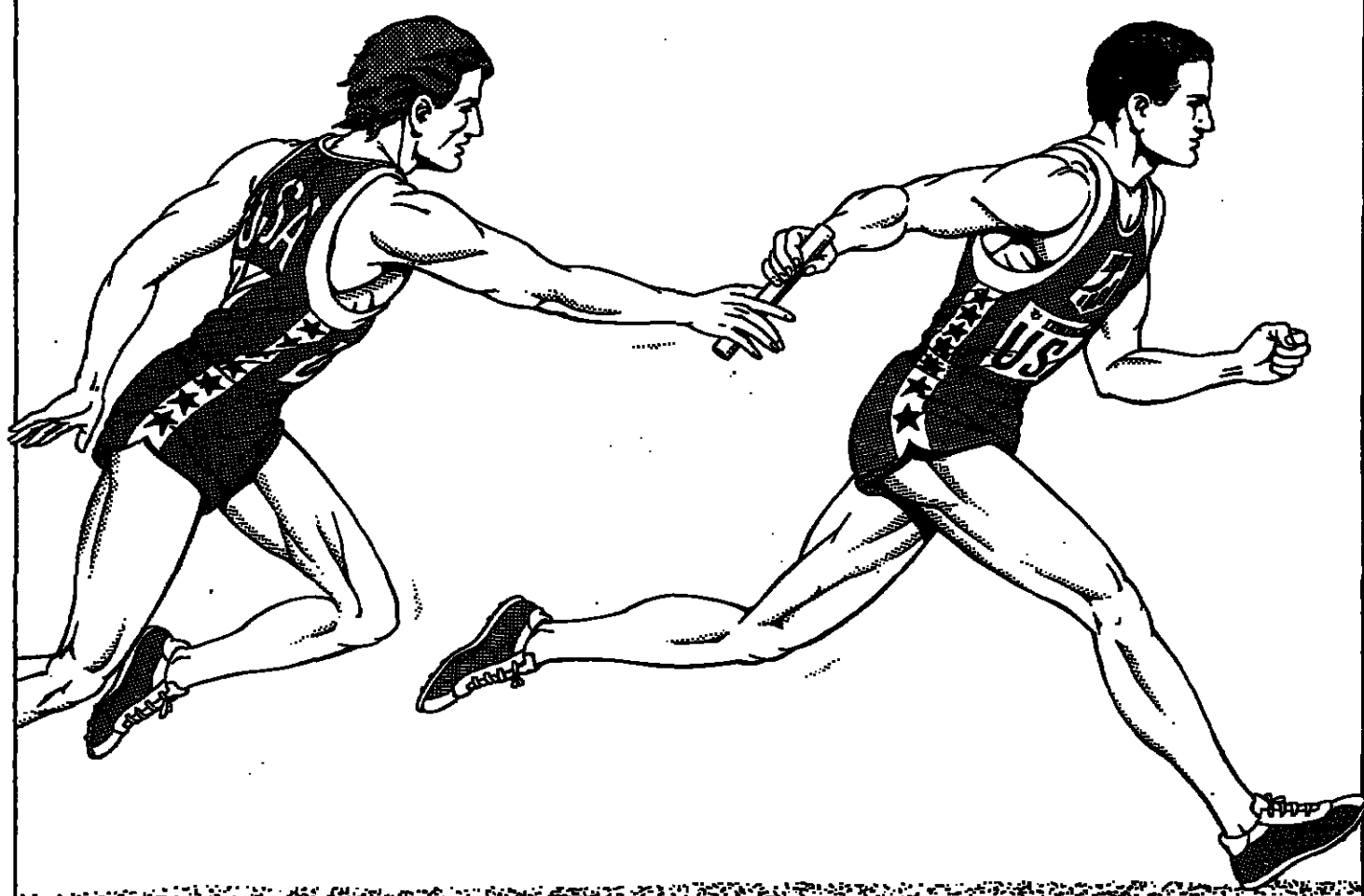
Shara said the community ministers and Syria agreed to back an international peace conference and recognise the Palestinian people's right of self-determination.

Dumas said that the EEC had long called for an Israeli withdrawal from occupied Arab territories and he hoped 1989 would witness progress towards ending the crisis.

"This is the first time the community comes to the Middle East with this weight to have an active role in the peace process and to help efforts to convene an international conference," he said.

Farmers protest with burning of cars and hurled firebombs at riot police today to protest what they called the government's disastrous agricultural policy.

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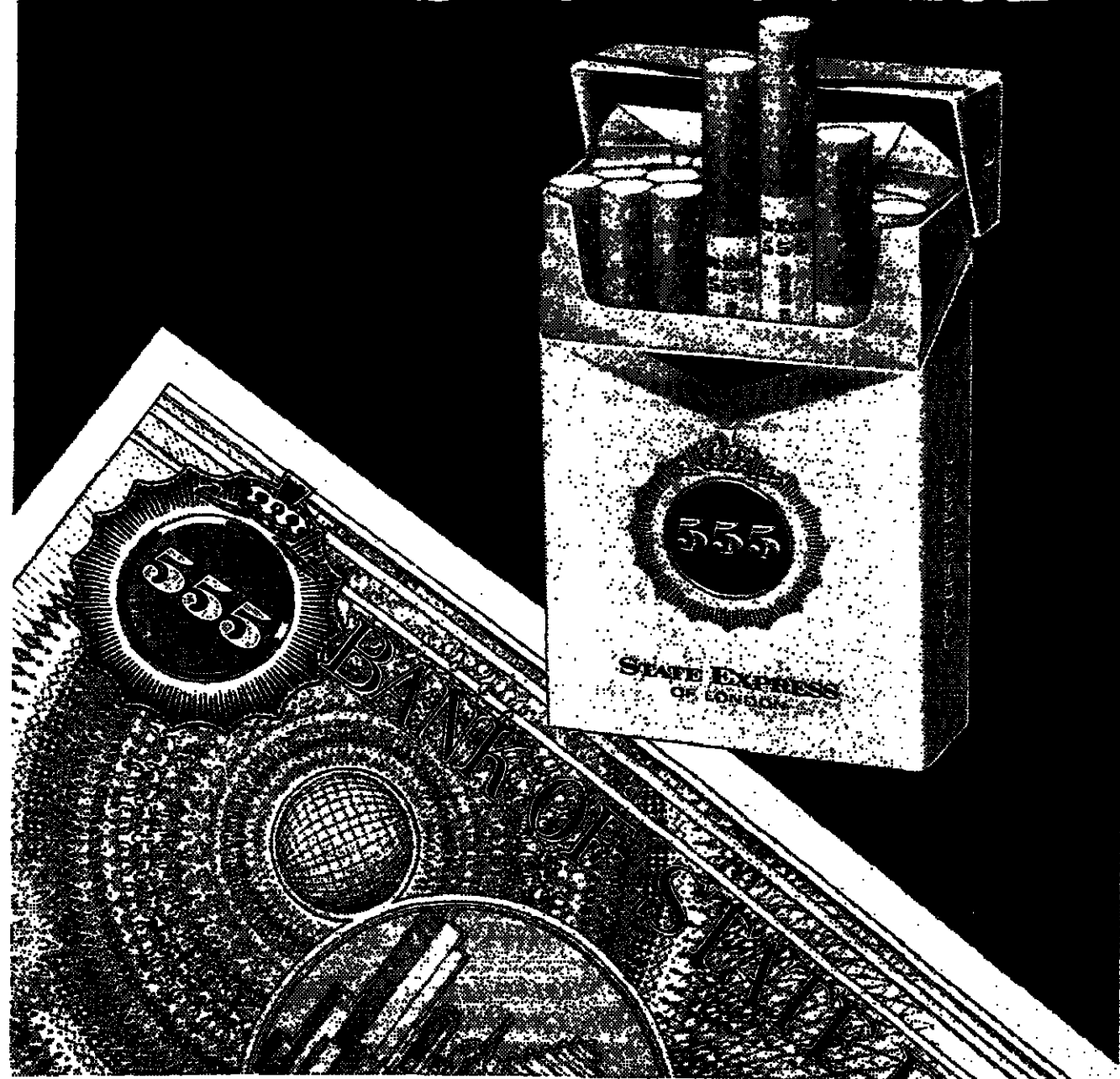
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Government Warning: Smoking is a major cause of cancer and diseases of the lungs, heart and arteries.

Thousands of troops to protect Sri Lankan voters

Rebels vow to wreck elections

COLOMBO, Feb 13, (UPI): More than 40,000 soldiers and policemen have been mobilised to protect voters and ballots on Wednesday in Sri Lanka's violence-plagued general election, the first in more than a decade.

The nation's two heavily armed rebel groups are opposed to the polls and have vowed to wreck the balloting for 225 Members of Parliament by the nation's 9.37 million eligible voters.

Because of threats of violence by Sri Lanka's two major insurgent groups, officials said it was impossible to predict voter turnout.

"More than 80,000 government officials and 41,000 security forces personnel are being deployed for election duty," commissioner of elections Chandananda De Silva said.

"There are 1,383 candidates from nine political parties and 10 independent groups contesting the general election."

Despite the plethora of candidates, the election battle centres on the ruling United National Party headed by President Ranasinghe Premadasa, who was elected in December, and its main rival, the Sri Lankan Freedom Party of former Prime Minister Sirimavo Bandaranaike.

Majority
Bandaranaike, who became the world's first woman Prime Minister in 1960, barely escaped an assassination attempt last week when two bombs were hurled at her election platform, seriously injuring one of her aides.

Political observers expect the ruling party, in power since the last general elections in 1977, to

emerge from the voting with a working majority, possibly requiring the support of smaller parties.

Voters in the south who choose to exercise their franchise face the wrath of the extreme nationalist People's Liberation Front, known by its Sinhala-language initials, JVP, which the government has blamed for more than 1,000 killings since the Jan 6 election nominations.

In the northeast, voters face the opposition of the Tamil separatists, who have been fighting a 6-year battle against the government for autonomy for Tamil-dominated areas of northern Sri Lanka.

Tamil militants declared a three-day curfew from today, warning schoolchildren and government workers to stay home and ordering shops to close.



Khashoggi bids for Taba hotel

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, Feb 13, (Reuters): Israel Television said last night that Saudi multi-millionaire Adnan Khashoggi was negotiating to buy a luxury hotel in deal that would help end the Taba border dispute between Israel and Egypt.

Israeli and Egyptian negotiators have been bargaining in Cairo over compensation for the 322-room Sonesta Hotel in Taba when Israel turns the tiny beach strip over to Egypt under the terms of an international arbitration award.

Israel has agreed to give Taba to Egypt within days of reaching agreement on compensation and access to the resort.

The television report said Khashoggi and an unidentified British billionaire involved in tourism were represented during talks near Tel Aviv with Elie Paposhado, the main Israeli partner in the Sonesta Hotel.

It said they met at the home of Israeli businessman Yaacov Nimrodi to discuss turning Taba into an international tourism centre. Khashoggi was believed to be in Cairo, the report said.

Israel retained Taba when it pulled out from the rest of the Sinai peninsula in 1982 under the terms of a peace treaty, the only one ever signed between Israel and an Arab state.

Release of hostages ruled out

BEIRUT, Feb 13, (Reuters): A senior Lebanese Shi'ite Muslim religious leader ruled out an early release for the 17 Westerners missing and believed kidnapped in Lebanon because of what he described as "new complications."

Sheikh Mohammed Mehdi Shamseddine, vice-president of the Higher Shi'ite Council, interviewed by the pro-Syrian Ash-Shiraa weekly over the weekend said:

"There are no new factors that could lead to a breakthrough in the hostage issue. Instead new complications have surfaced."

Shamseddine did not spell out the obstacles in Ash-Shiraa, which uncovered the arms-for-hostages deal between the United States and Iran in 1986.

Asked if he was hopeful for an early settlement to the hostage situation he said: "In fact, no."

"This problem has become very ugly. Those capable of putting an end to it should do so because it has become a stigma in our environment," Shamseddine said.

Shamseddine, who enjoys wide influence among moderate Shi'ites, has repeatedly condemned hostage-taking. Most hostages are believed held by Iranian-backed Hezbollah which has denied any involvement.

Israeli MPs fear more violence in West Bank

Call to dismantle Jewish militia

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, Feb 13, (Reuters): Two leftist Israeli members of parliament said they had appealed to the government to dismantle an illegal 100-strong militia formed by Jewish settlers in the occupied West Bank out of fear that the Army could no longer protect them.

Yossi Sarid said the militia was under the command of some of the best-known leaders of the almost 70,000 Jews who live in settlements interspersed among the one million Palestinians of the West Bank.

Rampage
"If this militia is not uprooted in the very near future the situation in the West Bank will be much more serious and dangerous than in recent times," Sarid told Reuters.

The report to Attorney-General Yosef Harish by Sarid and Dedi Zucker of the leftist Citizens Rights Movement said the militia had become active in the last three weeks and aimed to spread fear among Palestinians.

Settlers have gone on the rampage through Arab towns to avenge stonings and petrol-bomb attacks against Jews.

Sarid said the militia had weapons, ammunition, communications and vehicles. Many of the supplies came from the Army where the settlers, like most Israeli men, had been reservists.

Israel Radio quoted settler leaders Ron Nachman and Benny Katzofer as denying the allegations and accusing the two leftists of bolstering the 14-month-old Palestinian uprising.

Settlers have demanded tougher Army measures to quash the uprising in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip or else to be given authority to police the areas themselves.

The Citizens Rights Movement favours creation of a Palestinian state in the occupied territories alongside Israel.

Yesterday military officials broke up a meeting in the Arab West Bank town of Kalkiya between local Arab leaders and set-

tlers seeking to discuss attacks by Palestinian nationalists.

The settlers came from Alfei Menashe, a settlement of 2,100 Jews where an Israeli motorist burned to death on Wednesday in what police believe was a Palestinian petrol-bomb attack.

After meeting settlers for three hours West Bank commander Major-General Amram Mitzna told reporters the Army would prevent settlers from taking the law into their own hands.

"There is no way someone will take the initiative instead of the Army," he said.

But Yossi Feldman, secretary of Alfei Menashe, said: "We are suffering from a lack of security and want those responsible for security to take additional steps to ensure safety."

Shooting
Troops shot and critically wounded two Palestinian teenagers during protests today in a border town of the occupied Gaza Strip, Palestinians said.

Nasr Hospital officials said the teenagers were hit in the head

by plastic bullets and were being transferred to an Israeli hospital after the clash between troops and stone-throwers.

An Army spokeswoman said she was checking the report.

A 19-year-old woman was in critical condition after being shot in the head during clashes in Rafah yesterday, hospital sources said. Troops shot and wounded five Palestinians there.

Two others were wounded in clashes yesterday, including a 70-year-old man from Sha'ti camp who lost an eye after being hit by a rubber bullet.

Meanwhile, the chairman of the US Senate panel that approves foreign aid said US congressional support for Israel could weaken if Israel does not improve its treatment of Palestinians.

Patrick Leahy said Israel, the largest recipient of US aid, will receive its full \$3 billion this year but he said support for similar assistance in the future could wane unless the human rights situation improves.

Aga Khan visits India

NEW DELHI, Feb 13, (AP): The Aga Khan, head of the Ismaili sect of Muslims, called on Vice-President Shankar Dayal Sharma today, a government spokesman said.

"They had a nice meeting," said S.W. Mahwade of the Vice-President's office. "They talked for about 40 minutes on various subjects," Mahwade said. Details of the talks were not immediately available.

The Aga Khan accompanied by his wife, Begum Salimah, arrived in New Delhi last night on a two-day visit to the capital.

The Aga Khan is scheduled to call on President Ramaswamy Venkataraman and meet Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi tomorrow.

Earlier today, the Aga Khan, visited the mausoleum of Indian freedom leader Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi and the memorials of three late Indian prime ministers.

The Aga Khan became the head of the Ismaili sect in 1957 at the age of 20 when he succeeded his grandfather, Sultan Mohammad Shah Aga Khan, as the 49th chief of the sect.

Four held in Japan's stocks scandal

TOKYO, Feb 13, (AP): Prosecutors investigating a stock-trading scandal that has rocked Japanese politics arrested four people today, including the founder of the company that is at the scandal's centre.

Meanwhile, after a key weekend election victory attributed in part to public disgust over the scandal, Japan's biggest opposition party demanded that Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita resign or dissolve parliament "so the people can express their will" regarding the scandal.

Prosecutors said they had arrested Hiromasa Ezoe, founder and former chairman of the Recruit company, which reportedly sold tens of thousands of unlisted shares of stock at bargain prices to politicians, their aides and other prominent people. The purchasers then profited when the stocks were publicly traded and skyrocketed in value.

Also arrested were Ei Shikiba and Hisahiko Hasegawa, two former officials of Nippon Telegraph and Telephone, Japan's largest company, and Hiroshi Kobayashi, vice

president of First Finance, a Recruit subsidiary that financed the stock sales, prosecutors said.

Ezoe and Kobayashi were arrested on suspicion of giving bribes, while Shikiba and Hasegawa were arrested in connection with receiving bribes, news reports said.

Favours
NTT officials were among those who received stock from Recruit. The telecommunications company reportedly extended special favours to Recruit, including the resale to Recruit of two US-made Cray supercomputers.

Prosecutors took Ezoe from a hospital where he has been under treatment for exhaustion since shortly after the scandal erupted last summer, prosecution officials said.

Since then, three cabinet ministers and more than a dozen other prominent politicians and businessmen, including the chairman of NTT, have resigned because of the scandal, which has led to broader questions about political fund-raising and links between business and politics.

Article criticising Burma reprinted

RANGOON, Feb 13, (AP): A state-owned newspaper today broke 26 years of stifling unfavourable, articles about Burma and printed an article from Asiaweek magazine that contained criticism of the military government.

The story, entitled "Will Burma change?", was from the Feb 3 issue of the Hong Kong-based magazine. It was reproduced in English and Burmese in the Working Peoples Daily.

The article quoted some Burmese saying they distrusted the government, and were sceptical of its promise to hold free and fair elections. It cited allegations by Amnesty International and

other Western groups of students recently returned home after having fled the military crackdown last September.

As the immediate aftermath of the September coup led by Gen. Saw Maung, troops killed hundreds of unarmed demonstrators, according to diplomats based in Rangoon.

In the past, Burmese could see such foreign news reports only by obtaining mimeographed copies from foreign embassies in Rangoon. The press has been tightly controlled since Gen. Ne Win seized power in 1962, and began Burma's quarter-century of autocratic military rule.

The Saw Maung government has been trying to convince Burmese and the international community that it is committed to democratic changes. But with the exception of neighbouring Thailand, the international community has been isolating Burma to protest the brutal suppression of dissent.

Public demonstrations remain banned. Authorities last night celebrated Union Day with a dinner and dances instead of the mass rally in the past years.

Union Day marks the day 42 years ago when Burmese nationalist leader Gen Aung San signed an agreement with leaders of ethnic minority groups to jointly demand independence from Britain.

US presses for early settlement

Mahdi offers truce to rebels

KHARTOUM, Feb 13, (UPI): Prime Minister Sadiq Al Mahdi's dominant Umma Party is prepared to offer an unconditional one-month ceasefire to rebels fighting in southern Sudan, a senior party official said in an interview published today.

The offer comes amid mounting US pressure for a settlement of the 5-year-old conflict, which caused an estimated 250,000 deaths last year, and coincides with talks in Addis Ababa between a Sudan opposition party and the Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA) rebels.

Umma vice-president Nasr Aldin Al Hadi Al Mahdi, a cousin of the Prime Minister, said in the interview the party was ready to declare a unilateral month-long ceasefire and would not back down from it "except in self-defence."

If the SPLA is truly interested in the good of the nation it will have no excuse for turning down

the offer, he said in the interview published in the daily newspaper Al-Khartoum. Umma is the largest party in the governing coalition.

The SPLA, which controls much of the black, Christian and animist south, is seeking autonomy from the mainly Muslim, Arabic-speaking government in Khartoum, and particularly the suspension of Islamic sharia law.

US Secretary of State James Baker appealed on Thursday for an end to the fighting to permit the delivery of desperately needed food and medicine to hundreds of thousands of people who have been displaced by the fighting.

A tentative ceasefire negotiated in November between the SPLA and the moderate Democratic Unionist Party fell through because of objections from Muslim fundamentalists in Sadiq's cabinet, leading the DUP to pull out of the governing coalition.

A DUP delegation led by party deputy secretary-general Sidahman Al Hussein returned to Addis Ababa on Friday for renewed talks with the SPLA, reportedly carrying new peace proposals conveyed by Sadiq at a lengthy meeting before their departure.

Nasr Al Mahdi confirmed in the interview that Umma and DUP were continuing to coordinate efforts for peace despite the latter's withdrawal from the government, and said the DUP talks in Ethiopia were a reflection of that co-operation.

The November ceasefire agreement would have suspended sharia, lifted a state of emergency and provided a constitutional conference on the future of the south, but was rejected in parliament at the insistence of the fundamentalist National Islamic Front, another coalition partner.

Iranian immigrants denounce Khomeini

LOS ANGELES, Feb 13, (AP): Thousands of Iranian immigrants marking the 10th anniversary of the Islamic revolution that ousted the Shah of Iran shouted "Death to Khomeini" and called for restoration of the Shah's peacock throne.

The group of about 12,000 expatriate Iranians also listened as the late monarch's son delivered an impassioned speech calling on his followers to bring him to power.

"This is the day to honour the memory of all our compatriots who lost their lives in war, in prison and in the torture chambers of this bloodthirsty regime," said Prince Reza Pahlavi, who is considered by sympathizers of his late father to be the rightful successor to the throne and ruler of Iran.

Tickets
The rally inside the Los Angeles sports arena near downtown contrasted with mass gatherings in Tehran, on Saturday where up to 4 million people celebrated Khomeini's rule and chanted "Death to America."

The rally was staged in Los Angeles because the city has the largest Iranian population outside Iran, with an estimated 500,000 expatriates living here.

Iranian businessmen handed out free tickets to the rally that was attended by many families and children. Everyone entering the venue was frisked by police after passing through metal detectors.

Thousands in the crowd waved flags bearing the symbol of the Shah's regime, stomped their feet, clapped and chanted anti-Khomeini slogans.

Pahlavi, 28, took the stage to thunderous applause, holding his hands over his head in fists, blowing kisses and tossing roses into the crowd.

He condemned the Khomeini regime, saying it has "spilled the blood of hundreds of thousands of Iranians," and "caused the wholesale destruction of the country."

The exiled monarch said that all Iranians should come together and work to return the royal family to power.

Iran frees prisoners on anniversary

NICOSIA, Feb 13, (Reuters): Iran has freed more than 1,000 counter-revolutionaries, some of them facing death sentences, under an amnesty to mark the 10th anniversary of the Islamic revolution.

Tehran Radio, monitored by the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC), said today that 740 prisoners from western Azarbaijan, Shiraz, Sanandaj, Saqez, Mashhad and Hamadan had been freed under the amnesty proclaimed by spiritual leader Ayatollah Khomeini.

Others had been released in Gorgan, Kerman and Mazandaran, it said.

On Saturday, the Iranian news agency IRNA monitored in Nicosia said 230 anti-revolutionaries had been released from Tehran's Evin prison and 100 "repentant members of terrorist groups" had been freed in Tabriz.

The agency said 900 counter-revolutionaries who had confessed to very serious crimes were excluded from the amnesty.

Mujahedeen communicate through body language

ISLAMABAD, Feb 13, (Reuters): A shake of the head, a raised eyebrow or a shrug of the shoulders are clues reporters are learning to decipher to keep track of what is going on at the Afghan rebel peace talks here.

With feuding factions reluctant to say anything which might tip off their rivals, body language has become a major source of information, or disinformation, depending on who is doing the nodding or shrugging.

Words like "maybe," "perhaps," and "probably" take on a new meaning in Afghan rebel circles and the comment "inshallah" (God willing) is an ever ready answer to most questions.

A problem is that most delegates to the consultative council or shura, a key meeting of mujahedeen leaders hope will determine the future of Afghanistan after the Soviet withdrawal, do not speak English.

Answer
The few that do, are unable or unwilling to answer questions. The fate of the shura is in doubt because of dispute between fundamentalist and moderate factions of the Pakistan-based mujahedeen alliance over the number of seats that should be allotted to rebels based in Iran.

About 300 Pakistani and foreign journalists are in Islamabad, nearby Rawalpindi or the northwest border town of Peshawar following Afghan developments and the Soviet withdrawal due to have ended by Wednesday.

Those who have crossed to Afghanistan with the mujahedeen, claim they feel professionally safer covering the fighting than they do covering negotiations.

"There are too many landmines here," said one reporter referring to half-truths being bandied about by rival factions.

Experts said the shura problem was reflection of the traditional suspicion and mistrust among Afghanistan's feuding tribes and ethnic groups.

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Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmed yesterday received a copy of credentials of Libyan Ambassador to Kuwait Hasounah Al Laft Shaweeh.

Sheikh Saad congratulates Mousavi

KUWAIT, Feb 13, (KUNA): H.H. Crown Prince and Premier Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah today sent a congratulatory message to Iranian Premier Mir Hussein Mousavi on the occasion of his country's National Day.

Nawaf confers with Qatari Crown Prince

DOHA, Feb 13, (KUNA): Visiting Kuwaiti Minister of Defence Sheikh Nawaf Al Ahmed Al Jabr met here today with the Qatari Crown Prince and Prime Minister Sheikh Hamad Bin Khalifa Al Thani.

Qatari News Agency said that discussions between the two officials tackled brotherly relations between the two countries, in addition to issues of mutual concern.

The meeting was attended by the Kuwaiti delegation, accompanying Sheikh Nawaf, and the Qatari chief of staff and other high ranking officials.

Sheikh Nawaf had started an official visit to Qatar yesterday in response to an invitation by Sheikh Hamad.

Sheikh Nawaf and his accompanying delegation also inspected Al Doha naval base, the Qatari News Agency reported.

Sheikh Nawaf listened to a briefing on the activities of the naval forces, watched a parade by special units and visited coastal defence forces.

The Kuwaiti minister praised the improvement of the Qatari naval forces.

Meanwhile, the Qatari Crown Prince and Defence Minister Sheikh Hamed Bin Khalifa Al Thani later hosted a lunch banquet in honour of Sheikh Nawaf.

Shakbout laid to rest

AL AIN, Feb 13, (KUNA): The United Arab Emirates today laid to rest Sheikh Shakbout Bin Sultan Al Nahayan who died last Saturday.

UAE President Sheikh Zayed Bin Sultan Al Nahayan and other members of the higher council, grouping rulers of the emirates, along with delegations from Arab countries and a large number of people offered final prayers for the deceased. Zayed returned last night from Lahore, Pakistan, to attend the funeral.

The UAE president held talks with Pakistani President Ghulam Ishaq Khan and Pakistani Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto during his visit.

Discussions between them centred on exchanging views over recent Islamic and international issues, in addition to bilateral relations.



Intermarkets media workshop in Dubai

MEDIA planners from all around the Intermarkets Advertising Agency Network have met in Dubai for three days to get exposed to the latest international media planning skills and techniques.

In his opening note, Ramzi Raad the executive vice-president of the Intermarkets Network reminded participants to the 2nd Media Workshop that it was their responsibility as media planners of the leading agency in the Middle East to continue to upgrade the media planning function, setting the standards for the

Dress warmly to avoid catching ailments: doctor

By Lima Al Khalafawi

DUE to the fluctuations in temperature during the day and night, a large number of people have contracted flu, dizziness, and body aches. A doctor has advised people to wear warm clothes, even if the temperature is not very low to avoid catching these ailments and other forms of allergy.

Though officially, summer begins on April 1, for all practical purposes the winter ends mid-Feb. This year the winter has not

been particularly harsh for a length of time — though for two or three days the temperature dropped to -3°C during the last week of Jan.

This year the lowest temperature in the last two decades was recorded in Kuwait.

The low temperatures were brought in by the Siberian high pressure belt which spreads over the entire Arabian peninsula and is also affected by the seasonal Sudan low pressure belt which is linked with other pressures passing over the Mediterranean forming a compound low pressure.

Striking Indian labourers want to go home

By Fathima Ahmed

A FRESH dispute between the contractor and sub-contractors at one of the projects of the Al Qurain housing area has further dampened hopes of an early settlement of an Indian labour pay dispute that erupted over three weeks ago.

More than 900 Indian labourers stopped work on Jan 21, demanding back pay.

"The sub-contractors have said we must ask the contractor for our dues, and food," said a group of workers at the labour camp earlier this week.

They claim the Indian sub-contractors told them they are no longer responsible for them as they are on the "sponsorship" of the contractor.

The labourers, both skilled and non-skilled, have not been paid for between two and four months. Their salaries range between KD45 and KD85.

The sub-contractors say they cannot pay them because they have not been paid. They also insist that technically the labourers are the responsibility

of the sponsor.

Temperatures are high at the labour camp as the labourers and the engineers wait for a solution to the problem.

Food stocks are running out at the camp; so is patience, as the agitated workers wait for a settlement.

"We want to go back; the conditions are deteriorating at the camp and we can't take it any longer," they said.

Efforts are still under way to find a solution. Indian embassy officials are negotiating with the employers and the labourers.

"We are trying to solve their problem and we hope, we sincerely hope, we can find a solution," said an Indian diplomat.

"We don't want to work here any longer; we just want to return home," the labourers said.

Earlier this week the labourers made a formal complaint to the Ministry of Social Affairs and Labour asking them to redress their grievances.

Cases of non-payment and delayed payment of salaries have multiplied over the last few years due to recession, particularly in the construction sector.

Food control measures in Kuwait very strict

No cause for concern over soft cheeses

By Jadranka Porter

ALL cheese samples which underwent bacteriological tests in Kuwait's public health laboratories since 1987 were free of pathogens including *Listeria* bacteria which are said to have caused more than 50 deaths in Britain last year.

The British government has warned pregnant women and sick people not to eat soft cheeses like Camembert, Brie and blue vein types in which *Listeria* is likely to grow. These cheeses are available in Kuwait's supermarkets but examinations of random samples have shown that they are free of *Listeria*, said Yaqub Al Mutawa, head of the Public Health Laboratory.

The bacteria cause a mild flu-like disease, *listeriosis*, which can develop into more serious cases of meningitis and septicaemia.

No problem

Kuwait's public health department stressed that *Listeria* is not a problem in Kuwait and that its food control measures are among the strictest in the world.

"There is no cause for concern, Kuwait has had only sporadic cases of *Listeria*," said Dr Ramzi Ismail, an epidemiologist at the public health department and a member of an action group formed in 1987 to combat *Listeria*.

The discovery of high numbers of *Listeria* bacteria in several varieties of cheese in Britain is part of a wide-ranging inquiry into the country's food safety.

"We are concerned and are following what is happening in Britain. We have stepped up food control measures two years ago and are also urging local cheese producers to use pasteurised milk," said Ismail.

Saudi defence minister returns home after Bahrain visit

RIYADH, Feb 13, (KUNA): Saudi second Deputy Premier and Defence and Aviation Minister Prince Sultan Bin Abdul Aziz returned here last night after an official visit to Bahrain.

Prince Sultan conveyed greetings of King Fahd to the Amir of Bahrain Sheikh Issa Bin Salman Al Khalifa.

Prince Sultan, who yesterday

met Bahrain's prime minister, conveyed during the audience to the Amir greetings from the custodian of the two holy mosques King Fahd Bin Abdul Aziz of Saudi Arabia.

According to the Gulf News Agency, the meeting reviewed bilateral ties, current political developments in the region and the Arab area in general. Issues of mutual interest.

He is also scheduled to hold talks with State Minister for Foreign Affairs Saud Al Osaibi, focusing on bilateral ties, developments of the Palestinian cause, the current situation in the region as well as international issues of common concern.

At noon tomorrow Waldegrave is to hold a press conference at Kuwait International Hotel.

Prior to leaving for Bahrain at the conclusion of his visit to Kuwait tomorrow evening, the British official will be the guest of honour at a dinner banquet, to be hosted in his honour by Osaibi.

Missing cruisers found near Iraq

BOTH the missing sea cruisers, which disappeared at sea last Friday, were found near Iraqi shores, according to reliable sources, at the Kuwait Coast Guard.

There were seven Kuwaiti fishermen on board the cruisers all found in good health.

Interior Ministry embezzled

THREE employees, working at the finance department of the Ministry of Interior, were referred to General Prosecution accused of embezzling KD70,000, according to Sheikh Salem Al Sabah, the Minister of Interior.

He told a local news daily that the ministry appreciated all constructive criticism to sort out existing negativities and develop the level of performance.

Car showroom broken into

A CAR was reported stolen from a used car showroom in Salmiya the day before yesterday, according to a local newspaper.

The owner of the showroom, Zohair Al Haj said that he received an anonymous telephone call informing him that a group of thieves had broken into his shop.

On arriving at his shop, he found the outside door of his shop and the glass broken, the cash box empty and contents of his office strewn all over. A number of keys to cars on display were also stolen.

One of the neighbours said that at 1.00 am on the night of the break-in, he saw one person driving what looked like the stolen car.

Investigations are under way.

UN official calls upon Gulf states to join UNHCR

A UNITED NATIONS official has called upon GCC countries to join the membership of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) in order to promote accession to the convention of the organisation and to provide financial support.

In an exclusive interview with the Arab Times, Abdul Razzak Essaid, Middle East regional representative of UNHCR, said the participation of Gulf states in this unique organisation is vital for the welfare of refugees around the world in view of the fact that nearly 70 per cent of the world's 13 million refugees comprise of Muslims.

UNHCR is a humanitarian and strictly non-political agency devoted to protecting and assisting the world's refugees. According to its statute the agency's two main functions are to provide 'international protection' to refugees and to seek 'permanent solutions' for the problems faced by refugees. UNHCR comprises of 104 member countries. For a long time now a notable exception has been the absence of Gulf countries in the membership.

According to Essaid Gulf countries have a very important role to play to further the cause of refugees in general and Muslim refugees in particular, considering the region's immense political influence as well as economic strength in the world arena.

"Gulf countries have only supported the refugee cause on a bilateral basis. We are seeking their support for our work by becoming active members of our organisation. In spite of repeated efforts in the past in persuading Gulf countries to join us, I'm afraid the response has been a little disappointing," said Essaid.

However, he added that recent round of talks have shown a 'positive reaction' from the Gulf nations about the possible participation in the convention in the future. He said views are currently being exchanged about this prospect at the GCC Secretariat in Riyadh.

Contribution

Essaid cited that Saudi Arabia's participation will significantly influence the decision of other Gulf states to follow and praised the kingdom's contribution of 31 million to the ICARA convention in 1981 as a positive step.

"At the moment the Gulf states are taking a cautious approach about joining UNHCR. Their main concern is the presence of a significant number of foreign workers in their lands," said Essaid.

The UNHCR representative said there is a clear distinction between Gulf expatriate force and the refugee in the real sense of the term. Overseas labour force in the Gulf comprise of 'economic immigrants' on temporary basis, while the plight of political refugees is entirely different in context.

He further added that one of the reasons for transferring UNHCR's Middle East office from Beirut to Bahrain has been to attract Gulf membership to the agency.

Repatriation

Meanwhile, progress has been made in efforts to facilitate voluntary repatriation of nearly 70,000 refugees from North to South Yemen. According to Essaid a proposal has been made to set up a tripartite between the two Yemens and UNHCR. Both Yemens have agreed in principle to the idea. UNHCR office in Sana'a has called for special financial contribution to alleviate the Yemeni refugee problem.

Commenting on the 5 million Afghan refugees in Iran and Pakistan, Essaid said that conditions are still not met for quick repatriation of the refugees to Afghanistan. He added however that efforts are continuing in this respect.

UNHCR has appealed for about \$300 million for carrying out repatriation of Afghan refugees to their homelands.

Recognition

UNHCR has been awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for its work in 1986. The organisation was awarded the prize for the first time in its history. UNHCR awarded its prestigious Nansen Medal to an entire nation — the people of Canada in 1986.

UNHCR's annual budget is about \$450 million, the bulk of which comes in voluntary contributions from governments, non-governmental organisations and individuals. About \$10 million is allocated every year for emergency requirements. The organisation has representatives in 100 countries in the world, with its headquarters in Geneva.

Subiya housing construction to cost over KD 5 billion

THE Subiya Town Project is designed to supply a total of 35,000 to 40,000 houses and its approximated construction cost ranges between KD5 to 7 billion, according to Dr Abdul Rahman Al Awadi, the minister of planning.

He said that Kuwait's foreign investments will essentially be confined to the production of petroleum, petrochemicals and related conversion industries. These will eventually form the basis of industrialisation in Kuwait.

The official pointed out that Kuwait currently depends on its oil returns and investment revenues to make up for the existing budget deficit. This deficit is attributed to the past low returns on Kuwait oil prices.

Central command system for traffic signals soon: official

KUWAIT, Feb 13, (KUNA): Roads in Kuwait are among the most modern in the world, according to a senior official at the General Traffic Department.

The department is on the verge of implementing the Central Command System for traffic signal operations and transforming the Jahra Gate Roundabout into a highway said Col Sadeq Al Aslawi, director of the Traffic Technical Department.

He said that roads in Kuwait totalled 3,500 kilometres, 340 KM of which are highways. These are designed according to world standards in respect to their measurements, materials used in construction and traffic signals.

In relation to transforming the Jahra Gate Roundabout into a highway, Col Aslawi said that the roundabout falls within the limits of the Jahra Highway. Some parts of this area are being worked on.

Traffic jams

The director emphasised that roundabouts cause many traffic jams in all directions and make driving hazardous. The roundabout system on main roads are to be replaced by constructing intersections which would be controlled by traffic signals to co-ordinate traffic smoothly.

"Installing cameras at traffic signals would definitely reduce traffic accident rates" he said.

He urged road users to comply with traffic signs. The department has replaced some of the traditionally-used signs with an electrically lit-up type. These are in the experimental stage.

On the Gulf front, he said that it has been agreed by the GCC states to form a specialised committee to examine the possibility of standardising traffic terms and driving licences.

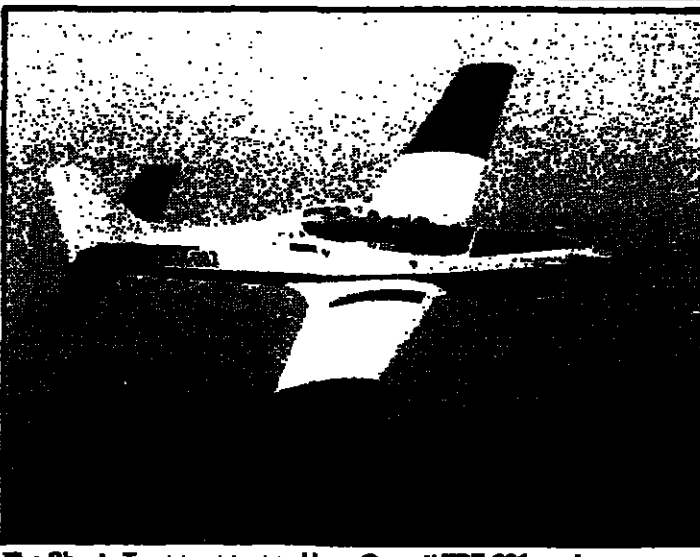
He added that GCC nationals are free to drive inside any of the six member states by using their driving licences. On expiry, licences can be renewed at the driver's state of residence.

The department has a complement of 136 employees and it co-ordinates activities with the Ministry of Public Works and the Traffic Studies Department at the Kuwait Municipality and also follows up road construction projects, Col Aslawi said.

New visas

THE General Immigration Department issued 14,000 visit visas in January.

The department also issued 7,800 No Objection Certificates (entry visas for residences) out of which 6,500 were for males. The department also granted 11,500 new residences and renewed 22,700 residencies.



The Short Tucano, powered by a Garrett TPE-331 engine.

Kuwait orders sixteen Shorts Tucano trainers

KUWAIT is to buy sixteen Shorts Tucano trainers and support equipment in a multi-million dollar contract which also includes spares and ground training aids.

The agreement was signed on Feb 7 for Kuwait by Defence Minister Sheikh Nawaf.

Shorts high-performance advanced turboprop will train student pilots for the Kuwait Air Force and Air Defence.

The 270 Tucano was developed by Shorts of Belfast to meet the requirement as a jet provost replacement and it is already in service with the RAF.

Gavros' film stirs new controversy

America's latest controversial film 'Betrayed' was intended to be anti-racist — but suddenly it's a big hit with the notorious Ku Klux Klan and could be banned around the world.

By Jo Mears

A FILM designed to challenge and expose racism has done just the opposite and become a favourite with America's notorious fanatical racist group the Ku Klux Klan.

Now the film 'Betrayed', (recently released on video in Kuwait) could be banned around the world.

Even the film's star, Debra Winger, feels the film could stir up trouble.

She says: "The Director, Costa Gavras, told me he wanted to make a movie that would make everyone feel the racist feeling within themselves. He succeeded."

But Costa succeeded in a way he didn't quite intend. For already extremists in the US are urging their friends to see the film — they believe it makes their views reasonable.

Mission

In the film, actress Debra Winger plays undercover FBI agent Cathy Weaver who, during the course of a murder investigation, is sent to infiltrate a seemingly peaceful farming community. She poses as a farm worker and soon falls in love with the chief suspect, farmer Gary Simmons — played by 'Platoon' star Tom Berenger — only to discover that he is involved with a group of terrorists.



Debra Winger and co-star Tom Berenger.

The group's mission is to rid America of "ZOG: The Zionist Occupation Government," the people Gary believes are the force behind "America's moral decline."

One chilling scene shows the gang kidnapping a black man for sport. They give him a gun and a 30-second start, before sending dogs after him. Then, Cathy is finally given the "honour" of finishing him off as he

lies wounded. Tom Metzger, former Grand Dragon of the Ku Klux Klan, says of the film: "Berenger's character is a martyr to his cause, depicted as a decent, loving father and patriotic American. We're pushing the movie and recommending it to all our friends."

At the outset, Debra wasn't quite sure what effect the film would have. She recalls: "The

big issue I had to deal with was whether the film would encourage the racist behaviour it portrays or condemn it." Eventually she decided the message was firmly anti-racist.

"White supremacists are using race hatred to affect the minds of white children who have sometimes have never even seen a Jew or a black person," she says.

"Some people will feel the film generates hatred." Now British campaigners are saying that if the Klu Klux Klan likes the film, that is good enough reason to ban it.

Thriller

But director Costa Gavras never meant the film to be anything other than a psychological thriller with political overtones.

He says: "The movie is a thriller. And for me a good thriller works when you feel very personally involved with the story and with what happens to the characters. In 'Betrayed' the thriller aspect is not in seeing if the killer will be caught, but seeing what will happen to this woman who is struggling to find herself."

FBI agent Cathy is an all-American woman of the Eighties, caught between the liberation of city life and the old-fashioned values of the country — torn between love for a man and loathing for his ideals.

Director Costa Gavras says: "This is a story of a woman and the experiences she faces in her search for love and a sense of belonging."

"She just longs for a place to call home, a place filled with love, somewhere to go after a day's work... simple things like that. And she thinks she's eventually found it until she discovers that the man she loves is harbouring dark secrets."

For the demanding role of Cathy, Debra Winger star of 'An Officer and a Gentleman' and 'Terms of Endearment', was the perfect choice.

Producer Irwin Winkler explains: "We felt this role required a young, yet mature actress. So many actresses look terrific but don't really have that depth of emotion. Debbie has both."

Fame

Debra, 32, who first shot to fame as the female star of 'An Officer and a Gentleman' alongside Richard Gere, was quite happy to co-star with hunky actor Tom Berenger. After all, she already had experience of playing leads with heartthrobs John Travolta, Nick Nolte and Robert Redford.

And Tom Berenger, star of the violent anti-war film 'Platoon' was fascinated by the role of Gary Simmons — a sensitive farmer who cares for his two children but whose gentle exterior hides the calculated, hate-filled mind of a terrorist.

Thirty-seven-year-old Tom adds: "There is a duality in Gary. He has periods of rationalising everything and times when he doesn't bother to rationalise at all. That duality, which he turns on and off, was the hardest thing to portray."

But sadly this emotional film — designed to expose and ridicule racism — is now seen as the exact opposite: a cult film for right-wing racist extremists.

In Britain black rights spokesman Harold Alayne has said: "The movie would not be in the best interests of the community here. We already have enough racial tension without films like this making it worse."

"I want to see films like this banned."

Now other countries around the world could follow suit and call for a total ban.

WHAT'S ON

ARTS

Kuwait Science Museum
DAILY: 5 pm onwards: natural history exhibits from in and around Kuwait, including blue whale. Friday: 9 am onwards.

Islamic Arts Museum
SAT - THURS: 8.30 am to 12.30 pm and 4.30 pm to 6.30 pm. Collection of Islamic art and Islamic artefacts. Quranic manuscripts, ceramics, carpets and marine equipment. Arabian Gulf St.

Tarek Rajab Museum
SAT - THURS: 9 am to 12 noon; 4 to 7 pm; Fridays: 9 am to noon. Collection of Islamic art, costumes and jewellery from the Muslim world.

Sadu House
SAT - THURS: 9 am to 12 noon; 4 to 7 pm. Exhibits include bedouin handicrafts — rugs, saddle bags, cushions and textiles. Closed on Friday.

CINEMA

French Film Festival
The Kuwait Cine Club and the French Cultural Centre will hold the French film festival at the Chamber of Commerce and Industry. The programme is as follows:

Feb 14: The Murdered House, Georges Lautner; 110 minutes.

Feb 15: The 4 Adventures of Reinette and Mirabelle, directed by Eric Rohmer; 95 minutes.

Feb 18: Elsa Elsa (1985), directed by Didier Haudepin; 80 minutes.

All films will be shown at the Chamber of Commerce auditorium. Screening starts at 7.30 pm. Children not admitted.

British Council
Feb. 18/19 — 6.30 pm: This month's feature film is "Unsuitable Job for a Woman", an off-beat detective story starring Pippa Guard as Cordelia Gray who takes over a detective agency after the death of her boss. Admission is free but it is advisable to reserve seats. Tel: 2515512/2533204/2533227.

Flying Arrows
Feb 16: The Flying Arrows Sporting Centre will celebrate its 10th anniversary/Valentines Day at the SAS Tent. Music will be by the Stepping Stones and Perfect Strangers. For details contact 2432791/5721824.

Charity Bazaar
THE Kuwait Society for the Handicapped will hold a charity bazaar at its premises, behind Andalus Cinema, Cairo Street. All proceeds will go to the care of the disabled children in Kuwait. It will be open, during working hours, for a week at the Society's premises.

Goan Show
Feb 17: The Goan community will celebrate the Nehru Centenary at the IAC. Three one-act plays will be staged at the IAC: (1) Bebe and Dodo, an English play by Dr Gerry Rodriguez; (2) Bad Luck by N.G.O.A.; and On Credit by

children aged three to six. All are welcome. Free admission. But it is advisable to reserve seats. Tel: 2515512; 2533204; 2533227.

Islamic coins in Sweden
FEB 18-23: An exhibition of Islamic coins in Sweden will open at the Islamic Arts Museum. It will be open to the public during museum hours, 8 am to 12 noon and 4 to 7 pm.

LECTURES
Feb 18 (6.30 pm): A lecture in Arabic on "Early Relations between the Vikings and the Arabs One Thousand Years Ago" at the National Museum.

Feb 19 (6 pm): Lecture on Swedish Arab Relations Over the Centuries at the Faculty Members Club, Kuwait University, Shuwaikh.

Feb 20 (6 pm): A talk on Arabic and Islamic Studies at the Swedish Universities, Faculty Members Club.

Feb 21 (6 pm): A lecture on Swedish-Arab Encounter and Poetry, Faculty Members Club.

Feb 22 (6 pm): A recital of Swedish poetry translated into Arabic will be held at the Kuwait Writers Association, Adeliya.

SOCIAL
German-Speaking Cultural Association
FEB 15, 8 pm: A fancy dress party and tombola with attractive prizes will be held at the Holiday Inn Hotel, Al Andalus Club. All members of the German-speaking community and their guests are welcome. Tickets available at German embassy, German school and library and for late-comers at the Andalus on Feb 15.

Kuwait Ronda
FEB 16: The Kuwait Ronda Grand Ball '89 will be held at the Messilah Beach Hotel. For reservations contact Tel: 5337597.

British Tea Party
MARCH 10: The British Tea Party/Annual Fun Day will be held from midday with fun stalls, animals, paintings competition, children's superstar contest, soccer and basketball, Leo's magic and other events. For details phone 5624111 ext 751/739.

Gala Dinner
MARCH 9: The Great Ormond Street Hospital Gala Dinner will be held at 8 pm. For details call 4831339; 5393151.

British Tea Party
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Hotels
At the Meridien
FEB. 14: Valentines Day. The hotel chef Cazes offers a special menu for all the outlets at the hotel. Heart-shaped cakes will be offered in Al Waha.

Crepe Festival
at Al Waha Restaurant, until Feb 28.

Versailles
offers a new concept in dining, featuring a selection of grilled seafood, meat or fish fondue and other dishes, open for lunch and dinner. Businessman's lunch is also featured. Every Thursday is Jam Session at La Brasserie,

the Goan Cultural Society, both Konkani plays. Music will be by Cajetan/Marcus/Xavier. For details tel: 2644983; 2413348.

Bangladesh Association
Feb 23: The association will hold a discussion followed by a cultural programme to mark the Martyr's Day (Shaheed Dibosh) at the Bangladesh embassy premises in Jabriya. All Bangladeshis are invited.

Dance Recital
FEB 23 (6.30 pm): A well-known Indian classical dancer, Dr Padma Subramanyam will give a Bharata Natya (dance-ballet) recital.

FEB 25 (6 pm): Dr Padma will give a solo-recital called "Janya Moksham," danced to Tchaikovsky's music. The recital has been organised as part of the Nehru Centenary celebration. Both performances will be held at the IAC, Funitees. For entry passes contact 3904817.

Gayatri Arts
FEB 25: 10 - 5 pm. The Gayatri Arts organisation for arts and sports will hold a social event to celebrate the Nehru Centenary. Indoor games and competition will be held at the Indian Embassy Hall.

Kuwait Welsh Society
MARCH 1 (Wednesday): St David's Day buffet-dance will be held at the Messilah Beach Hotel at 8 pm. Tickets — KD 6. For reservations phone 3713467.

KAPILKU Night
MARCH 3: The Association of Filipinos in Kuwait will hold KAPILKU night at Holiday Inn Hotel, Al Andalus Club, from 5.00 pm to 10.00 pm. A sing-a-like contest and the Bagong Kampeon (a singing contest) will be held. The top three in both categories will receive valuable prizes. Snacks and drinks will be served. Entrance fee: KD 2. For details contact Sarah on Tel: 4843447.

Five-a-Side Football
Feb 17: The Weekend Club will hold their first annual five-a-side football tournament at the Al Sour Grounds. The draw will be held on the same day. For entry forms contact M. Dias (Off), 2460983.

Laser Sailing
FEB 16/17: Messilah Beach open meeting; four race event over two days. All laser sailors wishing to participate please contact David Clark: 4845171/2425947; P. Shepherd — 4845153/5314957; P. Berry — 3924174.

United Goans Centre
FEB 24: The UGC will hold their 11th annual league football tournament. The draw will be held on Feb 16. All KIFF-affiliated teams are requested to contact the organisers for registration.

Tivim Centre
MAR. 4/5: The Tivim Centre will hold its second annual one-day seven-a-side football festival at Al Sour grounds. This will be followed by their second inter-village nine-a-side football tournament, beginning April 8. For details contact organisers.

Mini Rugby
Training and games every Friday at the Ahmadi ground; training starts at 10 am and mini-rugby finishes at 11.30 am. For details call Hugh McAree — 5326368 or Geoff Bennett — 5332683.

Raft Race
The third Kuwait Annual Raft Race will be held on May 26. Mens/ladies/mixed and carnival events. This year's rules and regulations are available from the Messilah Beach Hotel. The first captains' meeting will be held at the hotel on March 7 (6.30 pm).

featuring Remy D'Mello. Friday's, there is family fun with Oriental buffet and music.

At the International
FEB 14: Valentines special evening meal at the Fallaka Restaurant; a special Valentines Day promotion will be held in the La Palma.

On Friday, a special performance of Soul to Soul concert will take place in the Ballroom and on Feb 22, Anthony Feebles will give a piano recital at 8 pm in the Terrace Room. For details contact the hotel.

At the SAS
BISTRETTO: a new Italian restaurant has been opened at the hotel. A selection of Italian dishes are offered in addition to international and local specialties prepared by chef Peter D. Zobrist.

Al Boom: the floating restaurant will offer a different speciality every two days as well as the Al Boom menu of charcoal grills.

Peacock Room: offers a wide variety of Chinese cuisine introduced by chef Von Kwee Kion.

The Clock Drive-In restaurant serves fast foods and daily specials.

SPORTS
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Al Andalus
Kuwait cultural show

Al Sahmiya
Arabic play

Al Hamra
Youn Mir Youn Helu (Arabic)

Starring: Faten Hamama, Mohammad Munir

Drive-In
Ya Azzizi... (Arabic)

Starring: Laila Alwi, Saeed Saleh, Osama Abbas

Fahabeh Open-Air
Saheb (Hindi)

Al Fahabeh
Mad Mission (II)

Al Firdous
Joshiyay (Hindi)

Starring: Sunny Deol, Anil Kapoor, Sridevi, Meenakshi

Al Jahra
Maan Maryada (Bengali)

Granada
Raiders of Victory

Sufistikhat
The Wild Team

Al Jeeb
Humki (Bengali)

Ahmadi Drive-In
Al Khadimah (Arabic)

PRAYERS

Fajr 5.07 am
Zuhr 12.02
Asr 3.13 pm
Maghreb 5.37
Isha 6.55

TELEVISION PROGRAMMES

KTV 1

9.00 Holy Quran
9.10 Good Morning
9.15 Cartoon serial
9.45 World News via Satellite
10.00 Al Thaman: Arabic serial; starring: Jamil Awadh, Juliet Awadh, Ruhi Al Safdi, Iman Kamel.
10.50 News Summary/Good Morning
11.00 Khalati Qamasba: local Arabic serial; starring: Khalid Al Nafisi, Hayat Al Fahd, Suad Abdullah, Ghanem Al Saleh, Maryam Ghadban, Ali Mufedi.
12.00 Studio Angham: episode 4, presented by Mohammad Mutairi
1.00 News Summary
1.05 Holy Quran/Closedown

EVENING

4.00 Holy Quran
4.15 World News via Satellite
4.45 Cartoon serial
5.15 Tum Tek and Children
6.00 Ibn Attiya: historical serial; starring

Majed Afrouni, Shafiq Hassan, Marcel Marina.
7.00 News Summary
7.15 Agricultural Magazine
7.50 Questions and Answers: local talk show
8.30 Good Evening
9.00 News in Arabic
9.50 Al Baharat Al Marrah: Arabic serial, starring Hassan Abideen, Ahmad Maher, Muna Jabar, Fatima Tabae, Mohammad Rida and Anwar Ismael.
10.50 Min Al Alif Ala Alaya: variety show. Tonight's guest is director Yusuf Shamin. Hosted by Tareq Habib.
12.30 News Summary
12.35 World News via Satellite/ Holy Quran/Closedown

KTV 2

3.00 Opening and Holy Quran
3.07 Cartoons
3.25 Live telecast of the football match between Al Arabi and Al Kazma Sports Clubs.

5.25 World of Animals
6.00 Noveltoons: cartoon serial.
6.30 Break Point: a new series about for young viewers.
7.00 Footsteps: "The Spirit of the Canyon". David Drew traces the history of the Canyons, linking four states in the US.
8.00 News in English
8.40 A Year in the Life: starring Richard Kiley
9.40 The Hit Squad: "Catch it before it catches you" is the theme of this practical jokes series.
10.10 Bustin' Loose: Mimi plans Sue-Anne's birthday but Carole makes alternate arrangements.
10.30 Jake and the Fatman: "Fall in Love".
11.30 News Summary/Magazine D'Actualite/ Holy Quran/Closedown

Please note that programmes and timings are liable to change without notice.

RADIO PROGRAMMES

BBC World Services

0000 Newsdesk
30 Megamix
0100 News Summary followed by
25 Financial News
30 W. B. Yeats: Readings from the Poems
45 Europe's World
0200 World News
09 British Press Review
15 The World Today
30 Sports International
0300 World News
09 News about Britain
15 The World Today
30 John Peel
0400 Newsdesk
30 The Learning World
45 New Ideas
55 Book Choice
0500 World News
09 Twenty-four Hours: News Summary
30 Financial News (ex 27th)
40 Words of Faith
45 The World Today
0600 Newsdesk
30 The Best's Lost Beatles
0700 World News
09 Twenty-four Hours: News Summary
30 Europe's World

45 Network UK
0800 World News
09 Words of Faith
15 Health Matters
30 Megamix
0900 World News
09 British Press Review
15 The World Today
30 Financial News followed by Sports Roundup
45 The Intimate Brahms (ex 7th Havana Guitar Festival)
1000 News Summary followed by
30 Sports International
1100 World News
09 News about Britain
15 Waveguide
25 Book Choice
30 Citizens
1200 Newsdesk
15 Multitrack 1: Top 20
45 Sports Roundup
1300 World News
09 Twenty-four Hours: News Summary
30 Network UK
45 Recording of the Week
1400 Outlook, opening with 5-Minute News
45 The Intimate Brahms (ex 7th Havana Guitar Festival)
1500 Newsdesk
15 A Jolly Good Show
1600 World News
09 News about Britain
15 Omnibus
45 The World Today
1700 World News
09 Commentary
15 Citizens
45 Sports Roundup

1800 Newsdesk
30 Discovery
1900 News Summary followed by
25 Financial News
30 Development '88
2000 World News
09 The World Today
25 Words of Faith
30 Meridian
2100 News Summary followed by
30 Sports Roundup
15 Business Matters
30 Megamix
2200 Newsdesk
2300 World News
09 Commentary
15 International Recital

FM Services

0600 Opening/Easy Listening
0830 News
0940 Easy Listening
1000 Songs and Music
1200 Arabic Music
1300 Easy Listening
1330 News on FM Service
1400 Classical Music
1600 Easy Listening
1700 Italian Hour
1800 Pops
1900 Helter Skelter
2000 Pops
2130 News
2200 Indian Classical Hour
2300 Easy Listening
2400 Instrumental Listening
0200 Closedown

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Athina Onassis Roussel turns five

Everything money can buy except a mother's love

By Philippa Kennedy

EVEN the richest little girl in the world loves a birthday party, especially her own.

The huge brown eyes of little Athina Roussel were filled with excitement as her fourth birthday approached.

Last year her doting mother Christina Onassis gave her a flock of real sheep and her own sheep dog.

There was a lavish party at the Villa Cristal, their St Moritz home, with two massive cakes — one of them chocolate-topped with a miniature ski run, the other strawberry decorated with sugar animals.

But that was last year when the most important person in the little girl's life was with her, smiling at her and loving her as only a mother can.

This year the child who has almost everything and who is worth £300 million, wanted the one thing a fortune cannot buy — her mother's love.

And now her father, pharmaceutical heir Thierry Roussel, and the teams of staff — including her faithful nanny Monique, whose job it is to look after the little girl — are all desperately hoping that Athina will survive the hideous chain of tragedies that has come to be known as the Onassis curse.

Died Athina's mother Christina died in November at 37 from an apparently accidental overdose of diet pills and tranquilizers.

Christina's brother Alexander was killed in a plane crash at the age of 24. Her mother Tina died of pulmonary oedema amid rumours that she had overdosed on sleeping pills.

Less than a year later Christina's father Ari, devastated by his son's death and shaken by the failure of his marriage to Jackie Kennedy, died of a rare muscle-wasting disease.

Christina was determined that her daughter would not suffer as she had done as a child, brought up almost entirely by staff as her parents pursued their hedonistic lifestyle in the capitals of Europe.

Her biographer, Peter Evans, described it as a "charmed world of pampered neglect, her parent's affection



Athina Onassis Roussel: will she survive the hideous chain of tragedies that has come to be known as the Onassis curse

scrawled on postcards from distant places and wrapped in second-hand hugs from passing friends and acquaintances.

Now, with her mother no longer around to protect her and shower her with affection, Athina's future happiness rests in the hands of her father.

Pessimists Reluctants on the Onassis side are pessimistic about Thierry Roussel's ability to perform that role but there is little they can do.

They see him as a playboy who milked his less-than-loving marriage to Christina for all it was worth, while at the same

time living a double life with his beautiful mistress Marianne 'Gabby' Landhage, who has two children by him both born after Athina.

Gaby would make a lovely surrogate mother for Athina if she is ever allowed to. She is devoted to her own two children, three-year-old Erik and Sandrine, one and a half.

She is often seen with them in shops and at the beach with them and at their local Lutheran church near the comfortable bungalow in the port city of Gothenburg, Sweden, where they live.

Despite fears of relatives, Thierry Roussel — who was

divorced from Christina — has tried to shelter his daughter from the dreadful blow of her mother's death, by bringing her into his own family circle.

The family try to keep the child away from the prying eyes of the paparazzi, fascinated by the fate of the poor little rich girl and her colourful family.

Thierry Roussel is attempting to give her as normal a life as possible and even his ex-wife came to terms with the fact that Athina had a brother and sister and wanted her to get to know them.

Athina's life will be led in a variety of sumptuous residences like the elegant apartment

in Avenue Foch in Paris — and Boislandre, the villa her mother bought after she married Roussel.

In every home Athina has her own bedroom, bathroom and playroom.

All are stocked with the best toys from the world's most famous stores. There are dolls, houses, finger paints, stuffed animals and hand-carved wooden rockinghorses.

Athina has five battery-powered cars to drive around the grounds.

Her favourite doll, however, is ironically a battered and shabby old doll called Molly.

She has three armed British bodyguards to look after her and two nannies although Swiss-born Monique is her favourite.

Monique runs a fairly strict regime for the child she adores and make sure she gets good wholesome food and only rationed amounts of the Coca-Cola her mother adored.

Robust

Athina is a robust and lively child who smiles a great deal and loves to dress up and paint her face with crayons.

Her eyes, so like those of her mother, have no trace of that haunted look that cameras so often captured in Christina's face.

She is already reading and writing and speaks English, French, some Spanish and a few words of Greek.

Wherever she goes Athina is always beautifully dressed, often in Baby Dior. When she liked a particular outfit Christina would often buy it for Athina in several colours.

So far the only jewellery she wears is a gold bracelet she received as a baptism present.

As she enters the fifth year of her life Athina is already displaying signs of the wilfulness her mother showed as a child and as a young woman.

Christina, understanding her daughter, would take time to coax her out of her occasional temper tantrums. So far she is a good-natured amiable child. She will need all the strength of character that she can muster if she is going to grow up unscathed by the burden of her richness.

J.R. to wheel and deal in Moscow

By Jerry Buck

LOS ANGELES, (AP): Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev meets the ultimate capitalist, J.R. Ewing?

If Larry Hagman has his way, the meeting will become a reality in March when Dallas is tentatively scheduled to go on location in the Soviet Union and Europe.

Hagman, as well as regulars Patrick Duffy, Cathy Podewell, Sherie J. Wilson and George Kennedy, are awaiting a final decision on the trip. If approved, they will film scenes for Dallas in the Soviet Union, Austria and West Germany.

"I have no idea what the story will be," said Hagman, who this season became co-executive producer of the series with Leonard Katzman. "I don't think we'll know until Leonard finishes scouting the locations."

"But, Russia exports more oil than any other country, including Saudi Arabia and Iran. It's their only source of hard dollars. So I think J.R. may do a little dealing."

And might J.R. seek an audience with Gorbachev? "Don't think we aren't trying. If we could just touch flesh just once, I'm all for it."

It wouldn't be the first overseas trip for Dallas, now in its 12th season. Victoria Principal and Linda Gray went to Hong Kong a few seasons ago.

"It'll be fun," said Hagman. "It'll generate some interest."

Hagman became co-executive producer in September, a title offered by Lorimar television, but he acknowledges it's mainly an excuse. "They had to find some way to pay me more money," he said. "It was a means of paying me the executive producer's salary, if you want to know the truth."

Declined

Hagman declined to say what his salary is but said an estimate by "Entertainment Tonight" that he was making \$150,000 a week was below the mark.

The title "makes me feel more powerful," he said, laughing. "I did pick my new leading lady this year. I auditioned all the women and selected Cathy Podewell. She's a joy."

J.R. married Cally Harper.



Actor Larry Hagman who plays the ultimate capitalist J.R. Ewing on the 11-year-old soap opera Dallas.

played by Podewell, earlier this season in a shotgun wedding.

Discussing how long he would stay with Dallas, Hagman said, "It's a sin, let's face it. I enjoy it and I make a lot of money. I work three days a week and laugh all day long. They pay me what some countries make. Why move on? The chance of another TV show making it is awfully tough, and at my age, why risk it?"

"And why should I go into movies? I don't know of any movie actor who makes as much as I do. I'm willing to stay with Dallas as long as it goes on. We entertain people. Millions of people watch this show."

Hagman has used his influence, both as star and co-executive producer, to change the direction of Dallas. He was instrumental in persuading Patrick Duffy to return to the show and in getting Charlene Tilton back in her role as Lucy.

Duffy left in 1985 after Bobby Ewing was struck and killed by an automobile. Hagman felt the tension between

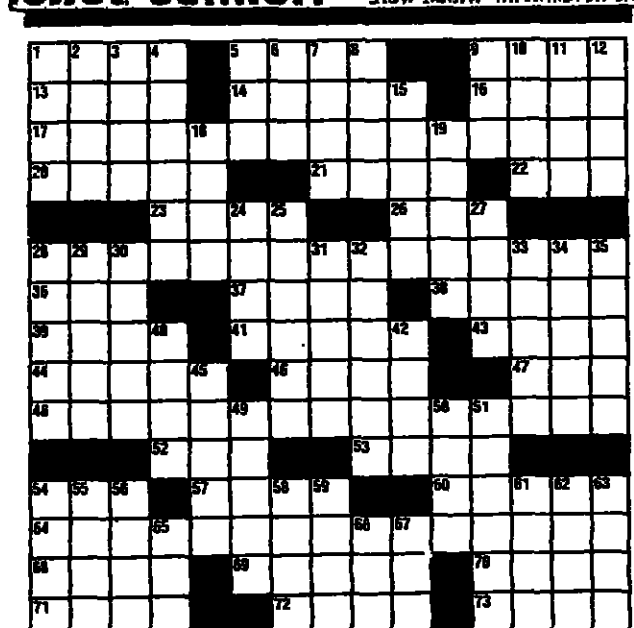
J.R. and Bobby was missed. Duffy returned in 1986 in the famous Dream episode, in which his death — and the entire season — were explained away as a dream by Pamela Ewing. Victoria Principal, who played Pamela, has since left the series. Hagman also tried to get her to return.

"I wanted to get the show back to the family," said Hagman. "I think it's best when we're all together. The reason Bobby and J.R. ended up getting married, was to get us out and doing something physical."

"It got us out of sitting around the boardroom making deals. There'll still be that undercurrent, but it has to be interesting. Maybe we can make a deal with the Russians."

Has J.R. changed over the years? "As an actor you sometimes paint yourself into corner you don't anticipate until later," he answered. "J.R.'s not as raw as he was. He's still amorous. He married this young girl."

1989 VS GROSSWORD



- | | | |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------------|
| ACROSS | DOWN | |
| 1 One of the Reindeer | 1 Volcanic ash | 31 Japanese-American |
| 5 Blowout | 2 "When I was" | 32 Ruth of song |
| 9 Emulated a wide receiver | 3 It's sometimes greased | 33 Torpedo craft |
| 13 Jail | 4 Retaining wall | 34 Rich cake |
| 14 Mountain nymph | 5 Jeer for the team | 35 Pilot |
| 16 Actor's goal | 6 Sandy's two cents | 40 Other Comb. form |
| 17 Alida in a best-seller? | 7 Solidifies | 42 Dismal cry |
| 20 Confess | 8 Cousin of teehee | 45 Old Chinese weight unit |
| 21 Equivalent | 9 Companion of to | 49 God of the underworld |
| 22 Tennis term | 10 Lounge | 50 "Woman of the" |
| 23 Larry Shur play, with "The" | 11 Mademoiselle | 51 Below the earth's surface |
| 26 Times' poetic beginning | 12 Mae | 54 — boy! |
| 28 Lorne meets the Duke | 15 Muster out, British style | 55 Level up, in a way |
| 36 Daiguri base | 18 Caesar's path | 56 Quarterback word |
| 37 Landed | 19 Put off | 58 Art school subj. |
| 38 Automaton | 24 Quantity of paper | 59 Feed the kitty |
| 39 The Village People hit | 25 Greek island | 61 Time's companion |
| 41 Garner standard | 27 Walked | 62 Space |
| 43 Before mi | 28 Rendezvous | 63 Saver |
| 44 Incantation | 29 Snortlike expression | 65 "To — With Love" |
| 46 Vowel sequence | 30 Entertainment host, for short | 66 Evergreen tree |
| 47 Supped | | 67 "— the ramparts..." |
| 48 Dana tames Broadway? | | |
| 52 Paddle's relative | | |
| 53 Singer's club | | |
| 54 Blond shade | | |
| 57 College sports gp. | | |
| 60 Rose essence | | |
| 64 Moses joins Alan and Veronica? | | |
| 68 Kon — | | |
| 69 Composer Erik | | |
| 70 Home of the first lady | | |
| 71 Part of USA | | |
| 72 Alas, once | | |
| 73 Peruse | | |

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF
HOW TO THINK A HAND THROUGH

Both vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH
♠ A K Q 10
♥ 6 4 3
♦ 8 5 2
♣ A 9 4

WEST
♠ 7 6 3 2
♥ 10
♦ A 10 6
♣ Q J 10 7 3

EAST
♠ 9 5
♥ Q J 8
♦ Q J 7
♣ K 8 5 2

SOUTH
♠ J 8 4
♥ A K 9 7 5 2
♦ K 9 4 3
♣ Void

The bidding:

South	West	North	East
1 ♠	Pass	1 ♠	Pass
2 ♠	Pass	4 ♠	Pass

Opening lead: Queen of ♠. Avoidance play at the table is something like guarding the foul lines in the late innings of a baseball game. In the latter case, you are prepared to give up a single to protect against the possibility of an extra base hit. In the former, you are willing to surrender a trick to a particular player to keep his partner off lead.

In this sequence, South's two-heart rebid promises a six-card suit.

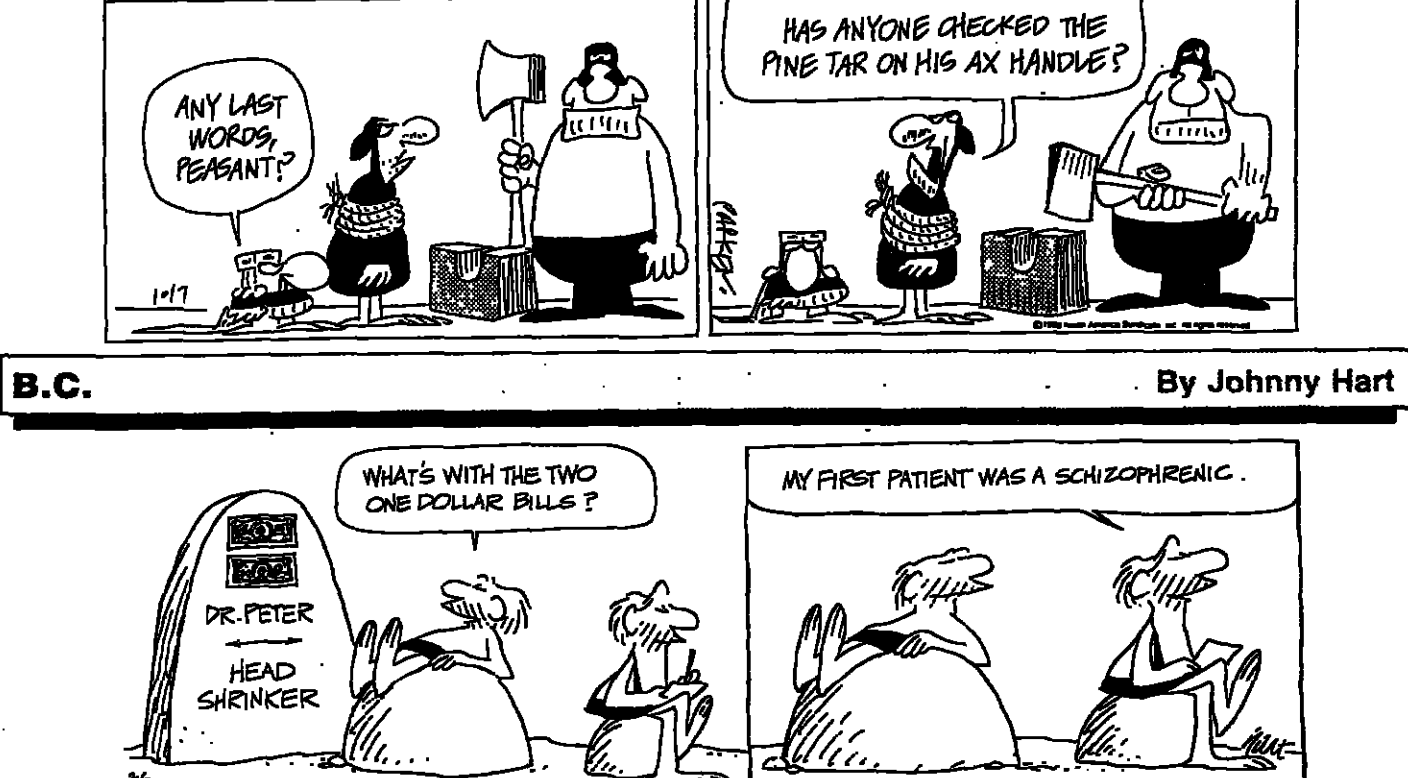
North, therefore, judged his hand was quite suitable for game in hearts despite the fact that his hand was perfectly balanced.

West led the top of his club sequence, won by dummy's ace as declarer discarded a diamond. The reckless player cashes the ace-king of trumps; if they divide evenly, he is assured of an overtrick and can make a second overtrick if the ace of diamonds is with East.

The careful player realizes that he will probably have to lose a trump trick. He also counts that, even so, he has 10 tricks—five hearts, four spades and a club. The only danger to the hand is that East has the long trumps and, when he gains the lead, he can push a diamond through the king.

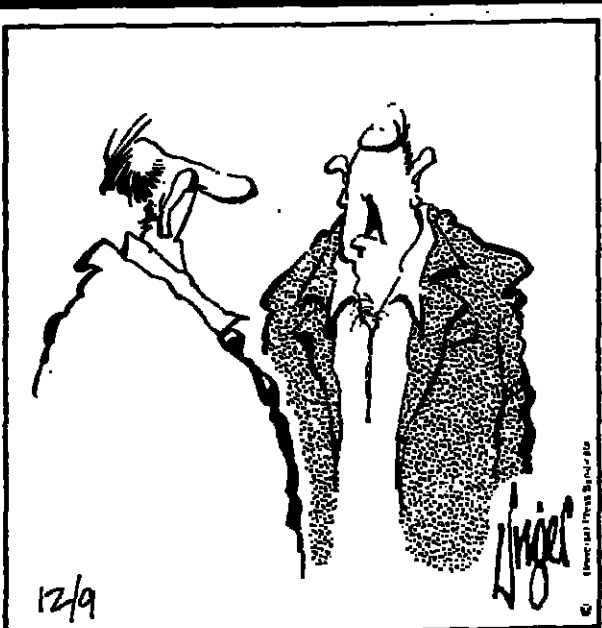
Once South has spotted the problem, the solution is simple enough. As long as East doesn't have all three missing honors, the contract is secure. At trick two declarer leads a low heart and, if East follows with the eight, he simply covers with the nine. If the cards are divided as above, West will win the trump trick, but he can do declarer no harm. Declarer wins any return, draws trumps and cashes his winners to fulfill his contract.

THE WIZARD OF ID



YOUR STARS

- | | | | |
|--|--|---|---|
| Aries (March 20 - April 18)
Others are likely to ask you to do more for them than they do for you. You should avoid promising more than you can deliver. You will have something to be pleased about. You will find it a little easier to learn. Be tactful. | Cancer (June 21 - July 21)
If you are wrong you should have the guts to admit it. You must not pretend to knowledge you have not got. Try to see the funny side of things. Be tolerant. | Libra (Sept 22 - Oct. 22)
You are liable to fall between two stools, and all you can do at the moment is to try to break the fall. You should not delay doing what you know ought to be done right away. | Capricorn Dec 22 - Jan 19)
If you are relying on luck to get out of trouble you will be more disappointed. When travelling you should make due allowance for traffic hold ups. Show just a little more goodwill towards others. Be abstemious. |
| Taurus (April 19 - May 19)
Do not spend too much time on the phone. You should concentrate on doing one thing at a time. Some advice should be considered carefully, it may be better than first seemed. You should not rely too much on others. Be sincere. | Leo (July 22 - Aug 21)
You will be able to do something very much to your liking, but do not shirk what has to be done. You should beware of spending more than you can readily afford. An outstanding matter should be dealt with without delay. Be grateful. | Scorpio (Oct 23 - Nov. 21)
You will tend to be rather nervous and preoccupied and should do all you can to keep calm. There is no need to lose faith in yourself. Make sure you do not drive too fast and look out for careless drivers. Be polite. | Aquarius (Jan 20 - Feb. 18)
You will have to deal with an obstinate person. Never mind, if you concede in some respects you will get your way in other less obvious ones. You should keep your eyes and ears very much open. Be considerate. |
| Gemini (May 20 - June 20)
The Moon's better influence coupled with that of the Sun and Venus will help you to stay in good health. You should not allow your mood to distort your judgment. Work hard without allowing work to invade your leisure time. | Virgo (Aug 22 - Sept 21)
You are liable to confuse what is with what you would like to be. Instead you should be realistic and face up to the facts. You would be wrong to pick a quarrel. Be magnanimous. | Sagittarius (Nov 22 - Dec 21)
You will have to make a few changes and should consider them most carefully first. You would do well to be just a little more patient. Avoid doing anything simply to revenge yourself. Be more frugal. | Pisces (Feb 19 - March 19)
You will have a good opportunity, but since it will not be obvious at the time you may well miss it. An obstacle will be more serious than appears at first. You should not allow gloomy and negative thoughts to overwhelm you. |



"We went to Greece for a second honeymoon. Six days and seven fights."

Life in Gaza is life under occupation

Discovering the truth about Israel

AS THE passengers came out of passport control at Ben Gurion airport, they were met by teenage Israeli girls who gave them silk flowers. Mine was a pink rose, bearing a label: "Thank you for visiting us. Hope to see you again soon. From the Ministry of Tourism." If only the pretty Israeli girls knew why I came — would I be greeted with such warmth?

It all began six years ago — in the summer of 1982, when I volunteered my services to the war victims in Lebanon. Until that trip I never knew there were people called Palestinians. In the refugee camps of Lebanon, in Sabra and Shatilla, I discovered the truth, Israel, was a ruthless monster.

The first child treated was a victim of the awful cluster bomb. He died, and I thanked God for that. If he lived, he would have no eyes, no face, no legs...

Then came more children — children with burns, fractures, with festering wounds, which left hideous scars. And finally the Sabra and Shatilla massacres which transformed the camps into a demolition site punctuated by mass graves.

The stench of decaying human flesh never quite left me, and I developed an obsession for perfumes, hoping that they would blot out that stench from my olfactory lobes.

That was my beginning with the Palestinians. That was where it would have ended — if I had not seen another side...

Yes, amid the horrors of destruction, death and decay, life goes on. Four generations of Palestinians have lived in this manner and brought yet more children into the world.

They were never sure whether their generation is the generation to see deliverance from this inhuman state, but they always lived in hope, in expectation, that their children, or their children's children would make it. Even when the most brutal fate befell them, they would still believe in God, and that one day His peace and justice would be granted to them. And then they would be like everyone else, happy and free.

Meanwhile, they would continue to rebuild their bombed-out homes. Palestinian women would gather their children and feed them with affection if there was a shortage of bread in the house. The Palestine Red Crescent Society, the health institution of the Palestinian people, would go on building and rebuilding their hospitals and clinics — to mend the wounds of war, and to defy the onslaught of further invasions.

I can clearly remember the words of a Palestinian woman. "It is so easy to die. But we have to live and be strong to carry on, for the sake of the future generations."

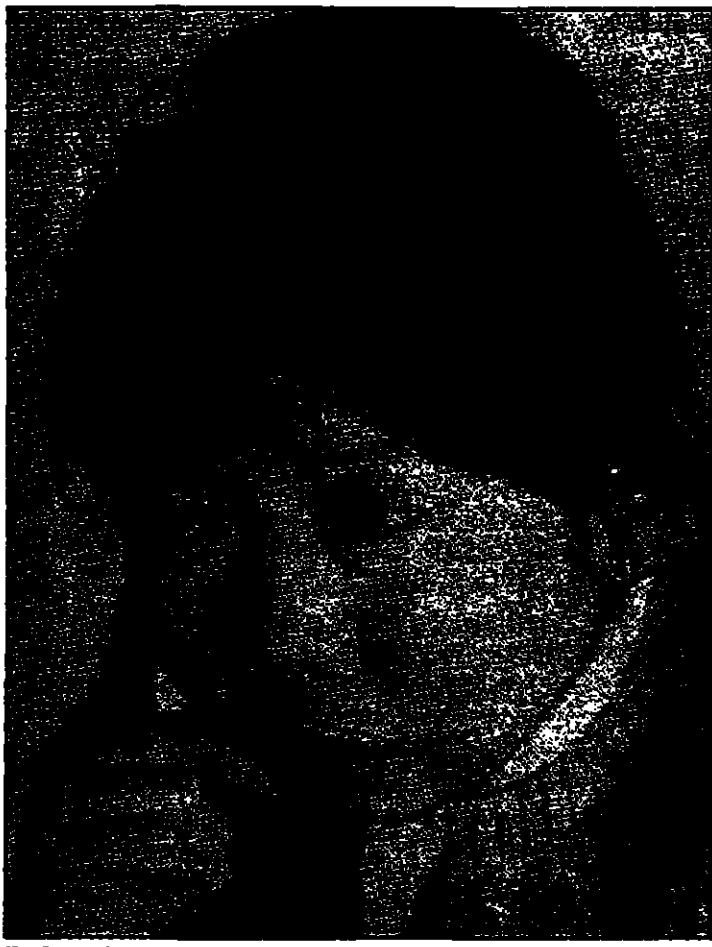
So Shatilla camp was rebuilt, how many times since 1982, I lost count. Attacks and sieges came and went, so did six harsh Lebanese winters. The wounds of Shatilla never quite healed. Yet when the Palestinians in Shatilla learned that the Palestinians in Gaza were wounded in the uprising and needed an orthopaedic surgeon, they urged me to leave for Gaza.

Arrived

I arrived at the Gaza checkpoint in late afternoon. Once across the checkpoint, London and Israel seemed worlds away. My first impression of Gaza City was that it was so much like parts of south Lebanon, and the southern suburbs of Beirut.

There were barbed wires, armoured patrol cars, and soldiers with machineguns. I felt at home almost at once — at home with the wretchedness, at home with the poverty, the curfews and the strikes, at home with the wounded people, shot and

Dr Swee Chai Ang has spent over six years providing medical services to the Palestinians, first in the refugee camps of Sabra and Shatilla and more recently in Gaza. She has recently published a book of her experiences entitled, 'From Beirut to Jerusalem.' Here is an extract from her book.



Dr Swee Chai Ang: in the refugee camps, I discovered the truth, Israel was a ruthless monster

beaten up by the Israeli Army.

But above all, I was immediately at home with the Palestinians of Gaza, with their kindness and hospitality, with their faith in the goodness of God, their lack of bitterness, their patience and courage in the face of untold misery and persecution.

Gaza measures 40 kilometres by eight, a very narrow strip of land next to the Mediterranean sea. In this area, 650,000 Palestinians found their so-called homes. The bulk of the population lived in camps — the Beach, Brouj, Deir el-Balah, Nuseirat, Maghazi, Jabalia and Rafah being some of them.

The population of each camp varies from 10,000 to 50,000 or more. Here, as in Lebanon, the

As though the squalor was not enough, there was the occupation. In these very crowded homes, each family would be huddled together for days and nights on the end during curfews.

It was the laws of the occupation that prevented the Palestinians from improving their environment, that made it illegal for anyone to upgrade their homes. The alleys between the buildings are very narrow, allowing one large person, or two slim ones, to pass simultaneously.

Yet the main streets of the camps are widened deliberately so that army patrol cars can drive with ease up and down each camp. And over the past year, military quarters have been built for the soldiers in the middle of the larger camps, so that they can

'Most of my patients were either beaten up by the Army or shot by them. The abbreviation BBA — beaten by Army — appeared in medical records with predictable regularity ... little children of five, six, seven, eight and nine years.'

camps were not tents, but rows of small concrete buildings. Each building of a mere two rooms would be home for a family of eight to 10 persons.

In summer, the heat, the smell of human waste, insects, skin diseases, plagued the camp inhabitants. In winter, the rain, the bitter cold in homes without heating or hot water added to the misery.

Squalor

Sewage disposal was by septic tanks into open cesspools, some of it carried there by open drains. The road surfaces were extremely uneven, both inside and outside the camps, and when it rained, half of Gaza's roads would be flooded.

get at anyone in the camp at once. Since my arrival, the Army have been breaking into the homes and beating up the occupants, often for no reason at all. Just two days ago, either people were bashed up in their homes and admitted to our hospital. They included children aged six, nine, 10 and 12. Mattresses were ripped apart, furniture was wrecked. Targas canisters were shot into the crowded little homes.

Life in Gaza is life under occupation. I learned that very quickly. One of the first things I saw was a large gathering of Palestinian women — hundreds, I would say. It was Friday, a day when they were allowed a brief visit to detained relatives. That

was Ansar II prison, next to the sea.

There was yet another prison in crowded Gaza, the Gaza Central Jail, where prisoners were put 25 to each cell, often having to sleep on top of each other. To be found with a Palestine flag, to be suspected of opposing the occupation, would earn a long prison term, never mind actually throwing stones at the Israeli Army.

But those detained in these prisons were still luckier than those detained in Ansar III. The latter is in the middle of the desert. Everyone in Gaza knows that the conditions in Ansar III are absolutely inhuman, and no visitors are allowed. Yet nearly every family in Gaza has at least one of its members in prison at any given time.

In the emergency room and the operating theatre of the hospital, I could not escape the occupation either. Both my patients and my Palestinian colleagues were victims in one way or another of that same occupation.

The older Palestinians told me how their families were murdered in 1948, and their homes blown up. They would show me pictures of their former homes. But if I went to where these houses were supposed to be, I would only find the supermarket

or blood vessels — they cause unpleasant, but non-fatal wounds.

Then there are different kinds of rubber bullets — at least three to my knowledge. First, the conventional rubber bullets used for riot control in most parts of the world — but seldom used by the Israeli Army nowadays. They tend to prefer some kind of modification where a heavier piece of metal is coated in rubber, therefore inflicting greater pain and tissue damage.

The third kind of rubber bullet is actually euphemism for a metal ball approximately one centimetre in diameter and coated with a thin layer of rubber, perhaps one millimetre or less.

This variety is vicious and produces perforations in the skulls and severe brain damage, comminuted fractures of limb bones, and extensive soft tissue injuries. My first encounter with this kind of rubber bullet was on Jan 2, 1989. A kid was brought into the emergency room with the story of having been hit by a rubber bullet. The X-rays revealed a large round metal object embedded in the area below the eye. The patient lost his eye as a result of this injury.

Following that was a young girl, with a penetrating injury of the cranium. Brain was oozing

'Then there were Palestinians with nasty high-voltage burns sustained as a result of being forced to take down Palestine flags hanging on electric cables and those with flash burns sustained when ordered by the Army to remove burning tyres from the roads.'

ets, car parks, and roads that have been built over them. Having lost their family homes, they had to build them again and again, each time in a different area, only to have the new homes again demolished by the Army. Most of my patients were either beaten up by the Army, or shot by them. The abbreviation "BBA" — Beaten by Army — appeared in medical records with predictable regularity. Then the patients with gunshot wounds, carried into the emergency room by terrified relatives. Little children of five, six, seven, eight, and nine years, aged teenagers of 12, 13 and upwards.

Severe beatings produced nasty soft-tissue injuries, bleeding into the joints and brain, rupture of major ligaments, and bone fractures anywhere — the hand, the forearm, the skull, the ribs, the legs, and so on. I soon accumulated a large pile of X-rays of such injuries. Occasionally, as though to provide some variety, the Army would shoot round kids instead of directly at them. This would produce panic, and the kids would flee. They would then climb up walls to get away from the soldiers, who would then resume shooting, forcing them to jump off the walls. These would come in with fractures labelled "Fallen off wall while trying to escape from the Army."

Wounds

Then there were Palestinians with nasty high-voltage burns sustained as a result of being forced to take down Palestine flags hanging on electrical cables, and those with flash burns sustained when ordered by the Army to remove burning tyres from the roads.

Gunshot wounds were of different types, and varied from time to time. The most commonly used bullets were the plastic bullets. They were the best of the whole lot, unless shot at close range, or into the abdomen where they would kill by perforating vital viscera, or the eye,

out and X-rays confirmed a metallic sphere embedded in the brain and the fracture in the skull created at the point where the bullet penetrated it. Her mother was hit by the same kind of bullet and had an open fracture of the wrist.

Of course, when the Army meant business — they would use a nine-millimetre steel-capped bullet, or some kind of dum-dum bullet, and my old friends from Lebanon, the lethal high velocity M16 bullets. On a good day, our hospital would have less than 10 "BBA's" and gunshot cases, but on a bad day, the wards would fill up very quickly, and the matrons would have to put up extra mattresses for the wounded.

The worst day happened before my arrival. The Army attacked a school, and the hospital had over 60 severe casualties.

Operated

Dealing with wounds and fractures is just one aspect — perhaps the technical and straightforward aspect. Dealing with wounded patients who are threatened with arrest is the real difficulty. This is especially so since I have examined and treated various people released from prison. They were brutally beaten in prison, and their description of the treatment they were subjected to was beyond the endurance of the fit and healthy, not to mention the wounded.

One evening I operated on a young man shot by a 9mm bullet. This went through his shoulder blowing it apart to multiple bits. If the shot had been fired closer to the midline it would have blown his neck apart. Scarcely had I completed his operation when the Army came into the recovery room of the operating theatre wanting to question him. My anaesthetist colleague, a Norwegian doctor, turned them away.

A few hours later the Army returned and wanted to go upstairs to question the man. I stopped them. They came back a third time, and 10 fully-armed members of the Army went into the ward in the small hours of the morning and interrogated the patient. I felt helpless when this happened — obviously no one could hold up 10 men armed with M16 machineguns.

They returned a fourth time with the view of abducting him. Fortunately the patient's relatives had taken him away before the Army arrived. From the surgical aspect, his shoulder



The mother of an 18-year-old Palestinian youth shot dead by the Israeli Army is comforted by relatives.

would probably be a disaster due to the severity of the injury as well as his inability to complete his treatment. I could only pray for his safety, and hope that his shoulder would heal.

I could only take comfort in the wisdom of Pare, the father of modern surgery: "I dress the wounds, only God can heal them." But the terror in my patient's face I would always remember — a wounded person who had just escaped being shot dead, facing arrest.

To this day, I have never found out what crime my patient had committed, and why he was denied the right to be treated properly. Certainly the mighty Army could wait a day or two for his condition to stabilise before getting at him in this way. Yet he was just one of many who were threatened with arrest while receiving hospital treatment. There are two parties who are victimised in this process. The obvious victim is the patient, but the not-so-obvious victim is the medical team. I felt as though the Army was forcing me to violate medical ethics. It was not only denying my patient the right to be treated; it was also denying me the right to treat my patient.

The irony was that the impoverished people of Gaza were paying taxes to "the government" so that the occupation could continue. They helped pay the salaries of the soldiers who shot and beat them, and the prisons that robbed them of their freedom, and the military apparatus that continued to torture and crush them.

It was small wonder that the Palestinians demanded an end to the occupation, and the "intifada" or "uprising" carried on without any hint of abeyance after one year, after nearly 400 Palestinians were killed, and thousands injured.

Palestinians everywhere told me: "It is impossible to stop the intifada. We will just have to carry on till we get our rights back." Palestinians invited me into their homes, where they would show me items made in the colours of the Palestine flag. Knitted woollen jumpers, embroidery, any common item would become a channel for expression of their longing for freedom.

One day I was operating on a beautiful young Palestinian girl who was shot. I started to think aloud. "This would leave such an ugly scar. I hope her future husband will love her despite this."

The Palestinian male nurse who was helping me with the operation looked at me in complete surprise. "Why do you say that? He will be very proud of her, because she was wounded for Palestine."

A 13-year-old boy came out of prison with his wrist broken by the Army. We straightened his broken bones and put him in a plaster of Paris cast, but when he was ready to leave the hospital, I learned that the Army had gone to his home and threatened his father. They would get the old man if his son did not show up. My patient bravely went home to face re-arrest. When I look at the courage of the Palestinians, I know that the occupation will have to end soon.

Christmas and New Year passed without my noticing — except perhaps for a bright little event on Christmas morning. Matron delivered a newborn baby in the emergency room. The mother had arrived in labour, and delivered almost on the spot. It was a healthy baby boy despite all the possible risks associated with breech delivery. For a moment, everyone in the emergency room was happy, doctors, nurses and patients.



A Palestinian youth shot in the stomach lies in hospital flanked by his mother.

FAMILY DOCTOR

By DR ALLAN BRUCKHEIM

HINTS FOR AVOIDING MOTION SICKNESS

QUESTION: We are travelling to visit our family, but that means I must endure motion sickness, which has plagued me for years. Why does this happen, and is there really anything one can do about it to prevent this annoying and sometimes embarrassing illness?

ANSWER: When the discomfort of nausea strikes during a trip, all the pleasure of a visit can be spoiled. It occurs when body clues that keep us oriented and our senses of balance become confused, when our eyes tell us nothing is moving but the delicate mechanism of the inner ear (also called the labyrinth) knows better, as it perceives the motion of the plane or vehicle we are riding in. Each sends different messages to the brain a conflicting story that can't be coordinated in a sensible way. That results in the feelings of queasiness that may progress to a true motion sickness.

"Motion sickness" is the single term that incorporates sea sickness, air sickness and car sickness; they are all the result of the same thing. Here are a few tips that may

prevent the sickness from occurring. Sit in a seat where you can observe the plane or car. Looking at the passing scenery while you travel will prevent conflict in the messages being sent to your brain.

Don't read as you travel, and sit in a seat that is facing the direction of travel. Eating before a trip is unwise, particularly heavy, greasy or spicy food. If someone near you is sick, try to change your seat, for the stimulation of such an experience may provoke the same condition in your delicate system. There are many over-the-counter medications which are effective if taken properly before your trip starts. Ask your physician or pharmacist for advice. With all these precautions, your trip should be a pleasant one.

ACROSS MY DESK: Winter is definitely here, and that means many lovers of winter sports have headed for the slopes to try out those new skis. But skiing at high altitudes puts them at risk for the return of a cold sore (fever blither). Oral herpes often recurs during exposure to the high solar

radiation that accompanies high-altitude skiing.

But there may be a way to avoid this annoyance if the experience of researchers can be duplicated. As reported in a recent issue of the Journal of the American Medical Association, medical conferences at the ski resorts in Snowbird, Utah and Steamboat Springs, Colorado provided an opportunity to test the effectiveness of acyclovir in preventing recurrences of oral herpes in individuals who had previously suffered from sun-induced episodes.

Of the 75 individuals who received prophylactic dose of 400 milligrams of acyclovir twice a day, only five developed the lesions, compared with 19 cases out of the 73 individuals in the control group who were given placebo. The medication was begun one day prior to exposure and maintained for up to seven days. None of the volunteers experienced a recurring lesion after the treatments were terminated.

1989 TRIBUNE MEDIA SERVICES, INC.

ANDY CAPP



BUSINESS & FINANCE

Kuwait and Moscow discuss joint oil projects

KUWAIT, Feb 13, (Reuters): Oil ministers of the Soviet Union, the world's biggest oil producer, and Kuwait, a key member of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC), held talks on oil co-operation today, officials said.

Oil Industry Minister Vasily Dinkov, said on arrival yesterday his discussions would cover the exchange of oil technology and expertise.

The talks were also expected to include the exchange of refined products and the setting up of joint ventures, officials said.

Kuwait's Oil Minister Sheikh Ali Al Khalifa Al Sabah said efforts by OPEC and non-OPEC states to co-operate in raising world oil prices were not discussed. "The willingness of the Soviet Union to co-operate with OPEC is known," he told Reuters.

Contacts

Kuwait is one of six OPEC states delegated by the group last November to pursue contacts with independent producers.

Dinkov said yesterday Moscow was ready to co-operate with OPEC to help to stabilise the world oil market and would send an observer to a meeting in London later this month of experts from even non-OPEC producers.

These talks will discuss possible joint moves by OPEC and non-OPEC producers aimed at raising oil prices to OPEC's target of \$18 a barrel from around \$15 now.

Sheikh Ali visited the Soviet Union in 1986 when the two countries signed an economic co-operation agreement, hailed as a sign of Moscow's growing economic and diplomatic presence in the Gulf.

The Soviet oil firm Technoport has since won a \$60-million contract to help to install desalination and dehydration equipment at Kuwait Oil Company refineries.

Iranian copper production to go up with new plants

TEHRAN, Feb 13, (OPECNA): Iranian Prime Minister Hussein Musavi inaugurated on Saturday a new copper furnace and sections of a copper moulding plant which would lead to sizeable production increases.

Once the second furnace of the Sarcheshmeh copper plant becomes operational, annual production will go up from 58,000 tons to over 100,000 tons. Under current plans, the plant will reach its nominal capacity of 145,000 tons by the end of the next Iranian year, beginning March 1990.

Reserves

The plant is being fed by supplies from the giant Sarcheshmeh copper mine which has estimated reserves of 500 million tons. The prime minister also opened sections of a copper moulding plant which will start producing 70,000 tons of copper products annually from June.

The plant, currently 78 per cent complete, will also receive 80 per cent of its raw material supplies from the Sarcheshmeh mine.

So far, about \$314.30 million has been spent on the project.

Mexican crude prices up

MEXICO CITY, Feb 13, (AP): The international price of Mexican crude oil increased in January over the previous month, the government petroleum monopoly Pemex announced yesterday.

Pemex said the increase was a positive sign for Mexico and all petroleum producing nations, which endured declining prices last year.

It said that the light Isthmus crude sold for \$15.86 a barrel in North America in January, up from \$13.96 in December. The price of heavy Maya crude exports to North America sold for \$12.38 in January, up from \$10 in December.

Exports

Pemex reported similar price increases for crude exports sold in Europe and the Far East.

Meanwhile, Mexico, the developing world's second largest debtor nation, has pledged to avoid unnecessary confrontation with its creditors in renegotiating its \$104 billion foreign debt, the government said in a statement issued yesterday.

Tehran will stick to its OPEC quota

Iran plans to boost oil output capacity

NICOSIA, Feb 13, (AP): Iran will increase its oil production capacity to four million barrels a day within a year and expects regular hikes in its OPEC quota because of an anticipated jump in demand for Gulf oil, the Middle East Economic Survey reported today.

The respected oil industry weekly, published in Nicosia, quoted Iranian Oil Minister Gholamreza Aqazadeh as saying that Tehran will still adhere to its Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries quota of 2.64 million barrels a day.

In an interview in Tehran with MEES editor Ian Seymour, Aqazadeh noted that Iran expects a steady increase in its output quota in the next few years to reflect what he predicted will be an annual increase in demand for OPEC oil of one million barrels a day.

Reconstruction

Iran's current production capacity, amid widespread post-war reconstruction, is around 3.5 million barrels a day.

Fighting in the war with Iraq halted on Aug 20 when a United Nations-sponsored ceasefire took effect.

Aqazadeh said that Iran's actual production is within the

OPEC quota that became effective from Jan 1 and is scheduled to run until the end of June.

"Our exports are two million barrels a day and the rest is used for domestic refining," he said. "I am under instructions from my government to maintain strict observance of the OPEC quota at all times."

Increase

Iran's projected increase in production capacity will keep pace with plans by Iraq to boost its capacity to 4.5 million barrels a day by 1991.

The Iranians have given priority in their post-war reconstruction drive to the oil and gas industry, mainstay of their economy.

Aqazadeh stressed that part of the planned increase in production capacity will come from major gas-injection projects in the Maru, Gach Saran and other oilfields to maximise recovery of crude deposits bypassed in normal drilling operations.

Injecting gas into secondary underground reserves, not considered commercially recoverable by normal drilling methods, forces the crude to the surface.

Aqazadeh said that gas injection at the Maru field will start next month. It will initially

involve injecting some 700 million cubic feet of gas a day and increase to 1.4 billion cubic feet later.

Some 1.2 billion cubic feet of gas a day is already being injected into the Gach Saran field and there are plans for similar operations in the Karanj and Paries fields within two years, Aqazadeh reported.

The oil newsletter said that Iran is moving to more than double its refining capacity, currently pegged at 620,000 barrels a day, to 1.5 million barrels over the next few years.

Iran's refineries were badly damaged in Iraqi air raids during the war, forcing one of the world's major oil producers to refine refined products such as kerosene and aviation fuel.

Knocked out

The Abadan refinery in southwest Khuzestan province, knocked out in the early days of the war when Iraq invaded Iran in September 1980 is being rebuilt and is scheduled to resume partial production in April.

Aqazadeh said it will start with a capacity of 140,000 barrels a day, increasing to 380,000 barrels a day later. Abadan, the biggest refinery in the world in

1980, had a pre-war capacity of 630,000 barrels a day.

New refineries are being built at Bandar Abbas, a major Iranian port in the southern Gulf, and Arak in western Iran that will boost capacity by 270,000 barrels a day in three years, Aqazadeh reported.

Another plant to produce gas liquids and condensates is scheduled to be built at Badar Tahr, supplied from the Karanj-Nar gas processing plant being built by South Korea midway down the Gulf.

Consumption

Once refining capacity reaches 1.5 million barrels a day, Aqazadeh noted that domestic consumption will account for 1.2-1.3 million barrels a day, with the remaining 200,000-300,000 barrels a day available for export.

Aqazadeh said Iran's proven oil reserves are currently estimated at 90 billion barrels, about 10 billion less than Iraq's. But he noted: "There are considerable exploration efforts in progress."

"We shall shortly be announcing some very important news about potential new reserves — gas and oil — in the offshore Gulf area," he said.

Amid a major debate in Iran about allowing foreign companies to be involved in reconstruction, Aqazadeh told MEES: "There is nothing to prevent us from getting foreign companies to participate in exploration operations on a contract basis."

But he stressed: "The consortium type of relationship between Iran and foreign companies is absolutely finished and gone forever."

To boost export potential, Aqazadeh said that 60 miles (100 kilometres) of an oil pipeline from Gurreh in the northern Gulf to Jask on the Arabian Sea coast has been laid as far as the port of Bushehr.

The 500-mile (800-km) pipeline, with a capacity of one million barrels a day, is scheduled for completion within 2-3 years.

Iran began planning a pipeline network during the war, when its tanker export route through the Gulf was under constant attack by the Iraqi force.

Aqazadeh noted that the Gurreh-Jask pipeline "has a major strategic importance for us, particularly as an insurance against emergencies," an apparent reference to a possible resumption of hostilities.

Despite government efforts to diversify energy sources

Japan imports about 70pc of its oil needs from Mideast

TOKYO, Feb 13, (Agencies): Japan is highly dependent on the Middle East for its oil imports despite government efforts to diversify energy sources, according to an official report published here today.

Natural resources and energy agency reported that Japan imports about 70 per cent of its oil requirements from the Middle East.

The government-owned agency said the country's quota from Western oil companies had dropped drastically to 30 per cent while direct purchases from national companies in the Middle East and other producers rose to about 70 per cent.

The report said Middle East's oil constitutes 22 per cent of the world's total oil production, saying the region's reserve is estimated at 64 per cent of the world's total oil reserve.

Due to the increase of oil con-

sumption in the world, the report said dependence on the Middle East will increase, indicating that the output of Indonesia, Malaysia and China from which Japan imports 26 per cent of its petroleum requirements will decline.

The report called for strengthening co-operation with oil producing countries and maintaining regular oil imports to Japan.

In order to realise this, the report called for taking necessary measures to achieve stability in the Middle East, stressing that Japan has to continue exchange of views and deepen understanding with oil-producing countries. It further suggested expanding the framework of technological co-operation and stepping up Japan's diplomatic efforts to stabilise the Middle East region.

Meanwhile, the Finance Ministry announced today that Japan's global merchandise

trade surplus in January shrank to \$3.245 billion, or nearly one third of December's surplus, because of a traditional slowdown of exports at the start of the year.

The ministry's preliminary figure compared with the black ink of \$9.646 billion in December.

Japan's imbalance with the United States also fell sharply to \$2.974 billion from \$5.029 billion in December.

"Normally, Japan's trade surplus in December rises sharply because Japanese corporations rush to export at the year-end and their exports slow in January," a spokesman for the ministry said.

Exports

Overall, Japan's export grew 11.5 per cent over a year ago to \$19.316 billion while imports increased 12.7 per cent to \$16.07 billion.

In yen terms, the January sur-

plus came to 412.364 billion yen, up from 391.449 billion yen a year ago.

Exports totalled 2.43 trillion yen, up 11.1 per cent over a year ago, and imports amounted to 2.019 trillion yen, up 12.4 per cent.

Japan's exports to the United States, which marked the first fall in six years in December, rose 11.1 per cent over a year ago to \$6.498 billion while imports gained 22.4 per cent to \$3.524 billion.

The official said Japan's imports of gold soared in January ahead of the enforcement of a 30 per cent sales tax, starting April.

Imports

Japanese imports of semiconductors jumped 40.4 per cent while those of automobiles, which accounts for about 20 per cent of the total sales to the United States, gained 7.8 per cent, the official said.

Bush launches campaign to bolster support for his budget

MANCHESTER, New Hampshire, Feb 13, (UPI): President Bush launched a campaign to bolster public support for his budget today, calling his plan "a realistic one" in the state that salvaged his White House candidacy almost exactly a year ago.

Before returning to Washington from a weekend at his family retreat in Kennebunkport, Maine, Bush stopped in Manchester to review his proposals before the Business and Industry Association of New Hampshire, one of the many conservative groups that supported his campaign budget promises last year.

The President recalled that as a vice-president seeking promotion from the voters in 1988, "I had a message, a message the people of New Hampshire and all of America understood: sensible ideas work and we can do the job without new taxes."

Acknowledging, however, that it took crucial early support from New Hampshire to keep that message alive, Bush said, "now that I've returned to your state for the first time as the 41st President of the United States, let

me repeat those four little words I said on election night: thank you, New Hampshire!"

That campaign tone is expected to be matched in addresses to other groups this week as Bush seeks to rally the public behind a \$1.16 trillion budget blueprint that Democrats say is short on specifics.

White House spokesman Martin Fitzwater told reporters that Bush plans to review "most of the major issues he proposed" in his nationally televised speech to Congress on Thursday night.

Proposed

Bush gave Congress a fiscal 1990 spending plan that proposed no new taxes, kept social security benefits intact, froze defence spending and \$136 billion in domestic spending and proposed funding increases for a handful of his pet projects, many promised on the campaign trail.

The President said today, "we have made tremendous progress and I mean to build on that progress... there are some areas in which we would all like to spend more, but we cannot until we get our fiscal house in order and get the deficit down."

He asserted, "the federal budget will not be balanced overnight but our plan is a realistic one... it is a budget plan that will work, though not with business as usual. It will require a partnership with the Congress."

Bush said late last week that the public did not fully understand his plan could include his pledge of "no new taxes" because it was premised on what he has estimated will be \$80 billion in additional revenue expected from growth during the fiscal year, which begins Oct 1.

Unclear

But left unclear was from where Bush planned to trim some \$11 billion in domestic spending that must be made in light of the freeze to bring the budget in under the Gramm-Rudman deficit reduction target of \$100 billion.

Bush defends his plan as a starting point, acknowledging "every 'I' hasn't been crossed and every 'T' dotted," but urging Congress to begin prompt negotiations to produce a final product.

As late as Saturday he insisted he was pleased with reaction to

his plan from "both sides of the aisle" and that Democratic leaders, including Senate leader George Mitchell, had indicated a willingness to begin. "We welcome all the help we can get on sharing the undertaking to make these cuts," Bush told reporters.

In heading back to New Hampshire for his first of three expected speeches this week, Bush again saluted the state that gave him a win Feb 16, 1988, over Sen. Robert Dole, Republican-Kansas, and reinvigorated the flagging presidential campaign that he eventually rode to victory.

Help

Said Fitzwater, "he wants to personally thank the people of New Hampshire for their help in the primary."

Bush went on two weeks later to sweep 16 of 17 states in the Super Tuesday primary to lock up the Republican nomination.

He publicly thanked the state, from where he also drew his chief of staff, former Gov. John Sununu, when he went on to beat Massachusetts Gov. Michael Dukakis for the presidency.

US steel companies preparing

Trade cases against foreign rivals

WASHINGTON, Feb 13, (AP): Major US steel companies are spending millions of dollars to try to support allegations of unfair trading practices by leading steel-exporting nations.

It's all part of a campaign by the US steel industry to win an extension of a series of pacts that set product-by-product limits on the amount of foreign steel that can be shipped into the United States.

Negotiated

The pacts were negotiated by the administration of President Ronald Reagan with Japan, South Korea, Brazil and other nations in 1984 in response to complaints by US companies that they could not compete with a flood of subsidised, foreign imports.

The agreements expire on Sept 30, and USX Corp., Bethlehem Steel Corp. and other leading steelmakers want to be certain

they are renewed. The administration of President George Bush has pledged its support for the pacts, although no specifics have been offered on whether they would be continued exactly in their present form.

Wild cards in the deal are the nations themselves. They are under no obligation to restrict their imports again, as they did voluntarily five years ago.

In order to pressure these trading partners, American companies have been paying millions of dollars to lawyers to compile so-called "unfair trading cases" against the countries, according to USX and Bethlehem executives.

Dumping

In the cases, the lawyers are detailing allegations of foreign government subsidies and steel "dumping," or the selling of products in the United States at

below fair-market value.

The unfair trading cases may never actually be filed with the US international trade commission, an independent agency with authority to order tariffs or other import relief for injured domestic industries.

But the American companies are compiling the cases anyway so the United States can use the information as leverage in negotiations.

Trade cases are "an alternative, an expensive undesirable alternative," Robert Boni, chief executive officer of ARMOCO Inc., said in a recent interview.

While steel industry officials are reluctant to publicly discuss the specifics of such cases, Boni said ARMOCO, of Parsippany, New Jersey, has spent \$2 million recently just on lawyers who are compiling them. He said larger companies were probably spending more.

Iraq, Moscow sign co-operation agreement

BAGHDAD, Feb 13, (Reuters): Iraq and the Soviet Union yesterday signed an agreement to co-operate in various fields including energy and agriculture, the official Iraqi News Agency INA said.

INA gave no figures but economic analysts said the agreement envisaged boosting trade to about \$2.5 billion a year compared with \$1.8 billion in 1987.

Accord

The agency said the accord was signed by Oil Minister Issam Abdul-Rahim Al Chalabi and Soviet Oil Industry Minister Vasily Dinkov.

INA said the Soviet Union would help Iraq to build or develop oil fields, a natural gas pipeline, power stations, irrigation schemes and grain silos. The Soviet Union was one of Iraq's main arms suppliers during the eight-year Gulf war.

World Business Summary

Turkey seeks trade boost with Iran

ANKARA, Feb 13, (Reuters): Turkey said at the start of economic talks with Iran today it wanted to boost trade to \$2 billion a year. The semi-official Anatolian news agency quoted Namik Kemal Kiliç, a senior official of the foreign trade and treasury under-secretariat, as giving the figure. Trade between the two neighbours was worth \$989.4 million in the first 10 months of last year, down from \$1.16 billion in the same 1987 period. Iran has sent a 70-strong delegation, including its deputy oil minister, for meetings of the joint economic commission, Anatolian said. The talks will be joined tomorrow by Iran's Heavy Industry Minister Behzad Nabavi and Turkish State Minister Yusuf Ozal. Official Turkish sources said Iranian Prime Minister Mir-Hossein Mousavi was due to start a three-day visit to Turkey on either Wednesday or Thursday. Mousavi's visit and the talks are signs that ties between the two neighbours have improved since late last year when Turkey spoke of problems since the Iran-Iraq war ceasefire. Iran has been a major supplier of oil to Turkey but its share in the country's total imports fell to about 28 per cent in 1988 from around 36 per cent the previous year, while Iraq's rose to more than 50 per cent, official sources said.

Bahrain and Saudi Arabia to clarify oil supply pact

BAHRAIN, Feb 13, (Reuters): Bahrain and Saudi Arabia are clarifying a long-standing oil supply agreement to pave the way for a \$640-million modernisation of the island's refinery, Gulf oil analysts said today. The Bahrain-based Gulf News Agency said on Saturday the island's supreme oil council had discussed the basis for providing the refinery with crude oil from Saudi Arabia and asked Development and Industry Minister Youssef Shirawi "to take necessary steps." Analysts said the report referred to a "two-month dialogue to formalise an open-ended arrangement under which Bahrain is supplied with its 200,000 barrels-per-day (BPD) lifeline. Commercial banks approached by the Bahrain government to fund the modernisation programme had asked for a formal oil supply agreement signed and sealed by the Saudis before they would agree, analysts said. "Unless they get a guarantee... no banks will lend the money," one analyst said.

Indonesia revises gas prices

JAKARTA, Feb 13, (OPECNA): Indonesia is now selling its liquefied natural gas (LNG) at prices formulated on the basis of spot market oil prices, according to Minister of Mines and Energy Gunaadarma Kartasasmita. Until now, Indonesian LNG prices were pegged to the government selling price. The minister told journalists at the weekend that the change was made to accommodate the wishes of Japanese and South Korean companies, the major buyers of Indonesian LNG. He said the new prices would apply with retrospective effect from June 1988. Gunaadarma said Japan and South Korea, to whom Indonesia was supplying LNG under long-term contracts, had been pressing for the change since, especially during 1988, when the gap between the official OPEC price and the market price began to widen. Under the change, Indonesia would have to reimburse part of the payments already made by Japan and South Korea, but it had been agreed that the refund would be made in kind, he added. Under a long-term contract signed in 1977, Indonesia is to supply a total of 15.50 million tons of LNG per year to Japan, while the 20-year agreement with South Korea, concluded in 1987, provides for annual deliveries of two million tons. From 1990, Indonesia will also supply Taiwan with 1.50 million tons of LNG every year.

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- Expect to save/earn Rs. 250 crores of foreign exchange over 10 years.
- Equity Participation — Firm allotment of shares to UTI and Canbank Mutual Fund of Rs. 1 crore.
- Govt. allotted water area and land in Port area — a must for setting up of a Shiprepair Yard.
- High growth, assured market — India's expanding fleet of 800 vessels, whereas company can handle at most 130 per annum.
- Easy Liquidity — Listing at Delhi, Bombay, Calcutta, Madras and Ahmedabad Stock Exchanges.

Summary of last audited accounts (Rs. in lacs)

Balance Sheet as at 15th December, 1988	
Share Capital	20.5
Share Application Money	381.3
Secured Loans	356.0
Fixed Assets	287.4
Miscellaneous Expenditure	0.1
Net current assets	703.3
	996.8

As the company is still in the construction stage & has not commenced commercial operation on profit & loss account has prepared for the period 15th May, 1989 being the date of incorporation to 15th December, 1988. The net expenditure incurred from the date of incorporation to 15th December, 1988 has been grouped under the head "Pre-operative Expenses" and carried forward pending capitalisation/allocation on completion of the Project.

INVESTORS' CONFERENCES

Date	City	Venue	Time
11.2.1989	Muscat	Hotel Al Falaj	7.00 p.m.
12.2.1989	Dubai	Hotel Astoria	7.30 p.m.
14.2.1989	Bahrain	Oriental Palace Hotel	7.30 p.m.
15.2.1989	Kuwait	Kuwait Sheraton Hotel	7.30 p.m.

Managers to the Issue: Financial Advisory Services Team, The Industrial Credit and Investment Corporation of India Limited, New Delhi.

Co-managers to the Issue: The Industrial Credit and Investment Corporation of India Limited, New Delhi.

Application Forms available and acceptable at the following Bankers to the Issue and their branches at:

Country from which Application is made	Bank's Branch which will accept the Applications
A. 1. United Arab Emirates	Bank of Baroda — Post Box No. 2303, Shaikh Khalifa Street, Abu Dhabi (U.A.E.) Post Box No. 3182, Dubai (U.A.E.) Post Box No. 1671, Sharjah (U.A.E.)
2. Bahrain	Bank of Baroda — Post Box No. 1915, Al Fatah Building, Al Khalifa Road, Manama
B. All other Countries including those mentioned above	Canara Bank — Share Processing Cell, Jeevan Bhand Bldg., Tower II, Parliament Street, New Delhi-110 001. Share Processing Cell, Verma Chambers, 11 Homji Street, Bombay-400 001. Bank of Baroda — 16, Parliament Tower, Dalal Street, Bombay-400 023. Stock Exchange Tower, Dalal Street, Bombay-400 001. Bank of India — PTI Building, 4, Parliament Street, New Delhi-110 001. M.G. Road, Bombay-400 001.

Public Issue of 1,30,00,000 Equity Shares of Rs. 10/- each for cash at par out of which 30,50,000 Equity Shares are reserved for allotment on preferential basis to NRIs.

ISSUE OPENS
Indian Public 20TH FEB., 1989.
NRIs 18TH FEB., 1989.

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1/1	18/1
1/6	48/7
1/1	41/2
1/5	18/4

27/5	57/5	SHEEN BUTT	22/0	22/4
23/3	23/5	SHSL-TRAN	38/3	38/4
15/5	15/4	SHER PLOW	59/2	59/6
29/7	30/1	SMITH INT.	8/6	8/6
42/0	42/0	SMITHK BEC	50/4	51/6
33/5	33/7	SNAP ON TL	36/4	36/0
0	59/0	SOURCE CAP	36/3	37/2
0	76/0	SOUTHERN	23/3	23/4
10/4	10/4	SPAIN FUND	11/4	11/3
31/0	31/0	SPERRY	10/5	10/4
22/3	22/4	SQUARE D	51/6	52/0
10/7	11/0	SQUIBB		
11/6	11/7	STONE CONT	34/2	34/4
27/1	27/0	SUN CO	33/4	33/5
48/7	48/7	SUNSTRAND	56/6	57/0
41/4	41/3	SUNSH MTR	3/2	3/2
50/6	51/0	SUPER VAL	24/6	24/7
1/0	1/0	SUPWEST	22/6	22/4
27/2	27/2	SW GAS	17/4	17/4
15/2	15/3	SWM BELL	43/1	43/2
28/4	28/6	TDK	67/1	68/5
20/4	20/4	TECO EMERG	22/4	22/4
20/1	20/1	TEKTRONIX	21/6	21/5
50/0	50/0	TELEPHONE	348/0	348/0
7/7	8/1	TELEPHONIC	26/0	26/1
14/4	14/4	TELEX CORP	0	49/0
18/0	18/3	TERADATA	13/0	13/1
4/1	4/0	TESORO PET	11/6	11/6
24/7	25/1	TEX AMER B	10	10
5/3	5/4	TEX EAS TR	48/4	48/6
29/5	29/5	TEXACO	49/4	49/5
4/3	4/3	TEXAS INST	35/0	35/0
0	0	TEXAS INST	41/6	41/6
11/7	11/7	TEXTRON	26/0	26/2
23/6	23/6	THOMSON	8/2	8/2
83/0	83/6	THOMER INTL	20/4	20/4
20/5	20/5	TIMKEN	36/0	36/3
39/4	39/6	TORCHMARK	32/2	32/3
56/5	56/6	TOSCO	3/7	4/0
56/0	56/1	TOYS R US	37/6	37/7
20/7	20/7	TRANSER	33/7	33/5
15/5	15/6	TRANSCO EN	37/7	38/0
44/4	44/6	TRANSCO EX	6/0	6/1
18/3	18/3	TRAVELLERS	37/2	38/2
41/1	41/4	TRINITY IN	35/1	35/2
22/5	22/5	TV CORP	27/7	27/7
43/0	43/4	TYCO LABS	36/3	36/6
19/6	19/6	UAL CORP	122/1	122/4
29/7	29/7	UTD BRAND	14/6	15/0
23/6	23/7	UTD TECH	44/1	44/6
89/2	89/2	UNILEVER	61/6	62/0
18/5	18/4	UNION CAMP	35/7	36/6
11/1	11/1	UNION CARB	28/6	28/6
17/2	17/2	US SHOE	26/0	26/1
58/6	58/6	US WEST	61/2	61/3
81/5	81/7	US AIR CP	38/1	37/6
10/7	11/1	VALEBER EN	10/5	11/0
5/3	5/3	VANLEY IND	1/7	2/0
5/7	5/7	VANCO INFLA	3/4	3/5
		VARIANT ASSO	30/0	30/1

LA FREIGHT	28/4	28/2	KROGER CP	9/4	9/4	RAYMARK	3/1	3/2	WAWOC OIL	6/6	6/6
CAS NAT GS	15/0	14/7	LEA RONAL	16/0	16/0	RAYTHEON	69/5	69/7	MAL MARY	33/0	33/3
CASH-COOKE	27/5	27/3	LEHMAN	12/1	12/2	REYNOL ME	57/2	58/0	WAL MARY	31/2	31/3

CBI IND	27/4	27/4	LINCOLN NA	47/8	KOCH B&C	60/1	60/0	WARNER CORP	39/3	39/4	
CSI	172/2	172/6	LITTON IND	74/7	ROCKAWAY	17/5	17/6	WARNER LAN	79/2	79/4	
CENTEL CP	63/0	64/2	LOCKHEE	46/4	74/7	ROCKWELL	21	22/0	WASTE MAN	43/1	43/4
CHAMP INTL	33/3	33/6	LOCOTTE CP	36/4	36/4	ROHR INDS	33/6	34/0	WAS GAS-L	24/5	24/7
CHAMP SPA	21/6	22/0	LORENS CORP	78/4	78/4	ROLLINS EN	11/6	11/7	WEIDY INTL	5/6	5/6
CHARTER CO	4/6	4/7	LOW-METTLER	0	30/5	ROLLINS IN	16/7	17/0	WEST CO	15/7	16/0
CHASE MAN	31/4	31/3	LOWE STAR	29/6	29/7	RORER GRP	60/6	61/1	WESTINGHOUSE	55/4	55/5
CIENED CP	0	33/0	LOWES	23/1	23/2	ROMAN CORP	4/1	4/1	WICKES CO	7/5	7/6
CINCINNATI	32/1	32/0	LTD INC	26/3	26/4	ROYAL CLARK	51/8	58/1	WILLIAMS-C	7/0	31/0
CIVILIAN	47/4	47/6	LYCORP	2/6	2/6	RSS-BERRIE	50/0	50/0	BILLINGS-CL	74	75/5
CLEVELAND	0	0	LYCORP	2/6	2/6	RYDER SYS	25/0	25/0	BIRMINGHAM	8/1	8/1
CRUISE CORP	23/4	24/0	LYCORP	2/6	2/6	RYDER SYS	25/0	25/0	BOYD-WEST	52/1	52/2
			LYCORP	2/6	2/6	RYDER SYS	25/0	25/0			

CIGNA CORP	53/3	53/3	LUBRIZOL	37/2	37/3	SALOMON	26/5	26/5	WIGLEY	37/5	37/4
CTN MILACR	24/0	24/0	LUBYS CAFS	26/7	26/6	SARA LEE	46/3	46/7	WYLE LABS	9/5	9/4

CITICORP	14/2	14/2	MALCOLM P	6/8	6/8	SCOTT PPR	40/0	40/3	ZAPATA	3/0	3/0
CITICORP	26/7	26/7	MONT AB	43/5	43/2	SCOTTYS	13/0	12/2	ZATRE CORP	25/1	25/2
CLARK EQUI	34/6	34/6	R HARRIET	8/2	8/2	SE BANK CO	23/4	23/4	ZENTIN EL	19/1	19/3
CLOROX	33/1	33/1	MAJOR CARE	15/2	15/3	SEAGRAN CO	67/5	67/6	ZERO	19/2	19/2
CHIBELL RES	13	12	MAIU HANOV	32/0	32/0						
CHIBELL SP	30/5	30/5	MANVILLE	0	26/6						
CHD PACIFIC	19/7	20	MARRIOTT	32/1	32/3						
COACHMEN	9/5	9/6	MASCO CORP	26/4	26/3						
COASTAL	35/3	35/2	MATSU ELEC	0	191/0						
COCA-COLA	46/7	46/7	MATTEL INC	10/0	10/0						
COLEDO	13	15	MAC INCORP	48/4	48/5						
COLEMAN CO	47/2	47/0	MCDONALDS	51/0	51/1						
COLG-PALM	45/2	45/4	MCDONNELL	85/5	88/7						
COLUM GAS	34/7	34/5	MCDONN-HIL	66/2	66/4						
COLUMBUS-C	112/4	113/6	HEAD	39/7	40/1						
COM EDITION	33/2	33/1	MERCK - CO	61/6	62/0						
CONAGRA	30/1	30/3	MEREDITH	31/2	31/1						
CON EDITION	45/6	45/6	MERRILL LY	30/0	30/2						
CONTINENTA	33/4	33/4	MESSA OFFSH	1/5	1/5						
CONTL ILLIN	40/5	40/5	MOBIL OIL	46/3	46/4						
CONTEL CP	46/0	46/2	MONSANTO	88/2	88/4						
CONTEL DATA	20/0	20/4	MONTANA PO	34/7	34/5						
COOPER T-R	26/6	26/3	NORGAN JP	35/6	35/4						
COOPER COM	3/7	4/1									

Dow Jones Plus Indices

	LAST	CHANGE	HIGH	LOW
IND	2,278.21	- 7.86	2,287.32	2,272.32
TRANS	1,053.69	- 6.30	1,061.77	1,050.78
UTILS	186.46	+ 0.23	186.88	186.17
STOCKS	869.80	- 3.34	873.80	867.86
NYSE COMP	163.65	- .36		
S-P COMPOSITE	291.68	- 0.34		
NYSE INDS	197.89	- 0.47		
AMEX INDEX	321.16	- 1.61		
NASD COMP	400.76	- 1.61		
NASD BANKING	458.95	- 1.87		
NASD FIN'L	478.94	- 1.64		
NASD INDS	396.09	- 1.63		
S-P 100 INDEX	278.05	- 0.22		

CRAY RES 60/2 60/4
CULLINET 5/4 5/5

DANIEL IND	10/6	10/5
DATA GEN	17/5	17/5
DAYTON HUD	45/2	45/4
DEC	113/0	113/1
DEERE-CO	44/6	45/2
DELTA AIR	55/1	55/4
DIAMOND SH	17/2	17/2
DIEBOLD	43/2	43/2
DISNEY W	73/2	74/0
DOVER CORP	29/5	29/5
DOW CHEMIC	95/0	95/3
DOW JONES	32/2	32/1
DRESSER IN	33/0	33/0

NYSE HIGHEST VOLUME		
LILCO	14 3/8	+ 1 5/8
ENERGY AIR	7 3/4	+ 1 1/4
PAN AM CP	6 1/8	- 1/4
NAVISTAR	4 1/8	- UNCH
IRN	125 1/2	+ 1/2
SANTIN BUS	13 13/32	- UNCH
EAST KODAK	48 1/4	- 1/4
BLUE ARROW	3 3/4	+ 1/2
PHILLIPS P	21 1/8	- UNCH
HOSP CORP	47 3/8	- 1/8

AMEX HIGHEST VOLUME		
DATAPROD	16 1/8	+ 1/8
FRUIT LOOM	7 3/8	- 1/8
WANG LAB B	9 1/2	- UNCH
ALEX INDUS	1/8	- 1/16
TEXAS AIR	13 1/8	- 1/4
KEYSTONE	1 1/2	- UNCH
ECHO BAY	15 1/4	- 1/8
ANDHAI CP	19 5/8	+ 1/4
DASONICS	2 1/2	- UNCH
MAGNA COPP	7	- 3/8

DUKE POWER	44/5	45/1	ENERGY AIR	7 3/8	+ 1 1/4	AREA LARGEST PER CENT CHANGE
DUN BRAD	53/2	53/7	LILCO	14 3/8	+ 1 5/8	DIRECT ACT 5 7/8 + 5/8
DURANT	55/2	56/2				VERMINT CLA 26 3/8 + 2 1/8

DODGERS	16/0	16/0
DYNAMICS	0	24/1
E SYSTEMS	30/5	30/6
EAGLE PICH	15/7	16/0
EASTERN G-	25/5	25/4
EMERSON EL	30/2	31/0
EMERSON RA	4/3	4/3
ETRYL CP	23/4	23/4
EXXON	44/3	44/3
FAN DOL ST	12/6	12/7
FED NAT MO	59/0	59/3
FIELDCREST	0	21/4
FLEETWOOD	27/1	27/3
FLENING CO	30/6	30/6
FMC CORP	36/3	36/3
FORD MOTOR	53/4	53/6
FOSTER WHL	16/4	16/2
FRCHELD IND	12/4	12/5
FREE NC OG	4/4	4/4
FST BANK	20/6	20/6
FST CHICAG	34/2	34/1
FST INTERS	48/2	48/1
FST MISSIP	17/6	18/0
GAF CORP	50/3	50/3
GANNETT CO	36/2	36/2
GALVESTON	2/0	2/1
GATX CORP	57/4	57/5
CULLINET	5	- 5/8
C 3 INC	10	- 1
MYSE VOLUME	55,369,700	
STOCKS UP	337	
STOCKS DOWN	809	
10-FEB NASDAQ VOLUME	132,730,700	
STOCKS UP	668	DOWN 1309
ENVITROPAC	2 1/2	- 1/2
BAILEY COR	5	- 1/4
AMEX VOLUME	3,663,150	
STOCKS UP	102	
STOCKS DOWN	293	

GEN DATA 5/0 5/0

...and the fact that the *Journal* is a journal of the American Psychological Association, the largest and most influential organization in the field of psychology, adds to the journal's prestige and makes it a must-read for all psychologists.

... ..

LONDON: British Aerospace PLC is issuing a 100 mln stg 10-3/4 pct Eurobond due Nov 24, 2014 priced at 1,00.048 pct, lead manager Barclays de Zoete Wold Ltd said. (XLDV 1008, XLGH 1538)

Frankfurt: Bayerische Hypotheken und Wechsel Bank AG said it was leading a 100 mln mark five-year Eurobond with a 6-1/2 pct coupon priced at 101-1/4 for its Luxemburg unit, HypoBank International SA, (XLB 1422)

Tokyo: Japanese banks are considering asking the Finance Ministry to ease regulations on the sale of loans made to third world debt countries, banking sources said. (XLEA 1049)

London: The Federal Business Development Bank of Canada is issuing a 75 mln Canadian dr Eurobond due March 6, 1992 paying 12 pct for the first year and priced at 101-3/8 pct, lead manager Swiss Bank Corporation said. (XLDU 0957)

London: The fashion among Western nations for trimming both inflation and borrowing has reshaped the profile of global interest rates. (Economic Spotlight) (ECSP-5)

Basel: The Swiss Finance Ministry said Switzerland will redeem early the 240 mln Swiss franc 5-3/4 pct 1981/93 Federal loan. (XLDK 0809)

Kuala Lumpur: Asasembang Malaysia BHD said it had concluded two syndicated loans for 220 mln ringgit and 55 mln dlrs for the state-owned Sabah Energy Corp. (XLDK 1015).

CALL		ONE MONTH	THREE MONTHS
LDN	12-7/8 3/4	13 12-15/16	13 12-15/16
PFT	5.90/6.00	5.65/75	65/75
PAR	8-3/8 1/2	8-5/8 3/4	8-13/16 15/16
ZUR	4-7/8 5-1/8	5-1/2 5-3/4	5-5/8 5-7/8
BRX	3.70	7-9/16 11/16	7-12/16 1-1/8
ROM	11-5/8 12-1/8	12-1/4 12-3/4	12-1/4 12-3/4
AHS	6.31/43	6.60/70	6.70/80
TOK	3.26/32 28/32	4.10/32 12/32	4.17/32 19/32
ECU	8.00 8.25	8.25 8.37	8.37 8.50

Following are the average KD interest rates of local interbank transactions as reported by participants to Central Bank of Kuwait, today.

Period	Bid	Offered
1 month	8-1/16	8-1/2
3 months	8-1/16	8-1/2
6 months	8-1/16	8-1/2
1 year	8-1/16	8-1/2

	PR.CLOSE	OPEN	CLOSE	GLINDIA	87.50	86	82.50	NICO	605	590	590
ACC	328	327	319	GWFC	40.50	40.50	41	MKAND	83	84	80
ASIA-PAINT	207.50	206.25	207.50	GRASIM	101.50	101.50	99.25	NOCIL	785	780	765
BAJAJ AUTO	391.25	390	382.50	GSFC	132.50	135	127.50	ORKAY	22	21.50	22
BAR.RAYON	310	305	310	NIND LEVER	74	73	73.50	PEICO	21.50	21	21
BOM.OYING	125	124.50	123	NINDALCO	171.50	171.50	174	PFIZER	75	74	73
BSE INDEX	125	123	122	NINDCOCA	112.50	112.50	110	PRE.AUTO	43.50	43.25	42.50
BRE.INDO	670.40		669.80	NINDHOTOR	29.50	29.50	29	RAYMOND	69.50	68.50	69.50
BSSE INDIA				IND ORG	34	35	31.50	RELIANCE	143.50	144	138.50
CENTURYSPG	1522	1520	1490	INDRATON	86	85.50	85	SIEMENS	80	78	78
COLGATE	322.50	320	313.75	INDROL	285	282.50	281.25	SPIC	39	39.50	41.50
DEEPAKFERT	35.50	35.25	35	ITC	51	49	48.50	STOWILLS	230	220	225
EI.HOTEL	57	55	57	JCSYNTH	81	80.50	76	TATA PHR	370	370	365
ESKAYEF	135	135	132.50	L AND T	114.50	115	114	TATACHEN	113.50	114	112
ESSAR	21.50	22	21.5	HAKINDRA	86	87	85.50	TELCO	752.50	755	742.50
GAR. SHIP	73.75	72.50	68.75	MASTERSHR	15.35	15.15	15	TISCO	1227	1227	1205
GE. POLY	36	36.25	35.85	MATHER PL	53.50	52.50	50	VOLTAS	580	570	570

STOCK	LAST PR	CLOSE
AEG	210.0	211.0
ALLIANCE VR	1618.0	1650.0
BADEMWERK	195.0	193.0
BASF	29.5	30.0
BAYER	306.7	311.0
BAYER-WYD	377.0	380.0
BAYER VER	368.0	394.0
BHC	414.0	420.0
BIF	514.0	455.0
BIM	541.0	521.0
COMMERZBK	245.1	249.5
CONT'L GUIN	262.0	263.7
DAIMLER BEN	661.0	671.0
DEUTSC BHK	530.0	539.5
DLE	487.0	487.0
DRESDENER B	302.5	305.5
DR SABCOCK	178.0	182.0
F&W UNEX	562.49	566.84
FELDMUEHLE	3155.0	3117.5
GOSCHWITZ & B	491.0	494.0
GRUBERMAN	475.44	480.00
HUGENBERG 1st	301.0	310.0
HUGENBERG AG	301.0	310.0
HOESCH	225.5	230.0
HORTEN	228.0	232.0
HUGENBERG HLD	342.0	352.0
K&A S&LZ	179.0	185.0
KARSTADT	429.0	434.0
KAUFGOW	418.5	435.0
KLOECK H	163.0	165.2
KLOECK W	175.5	175.0
LUNDE	805.0	805.0
LUTHERKASIA	175.5	176.0
MAN	258.0	260.2
MANHESMAN	221.8	225.8
MERCEDES	532.0	543.0
METALLURGE	407.0	411.0
NORDRO PF	340.0	342.2
NIXKOF HYD	38.30	38.20
PHILIP KONG	675.0	680.0
PORSCE	730.0	745.0
PREUSSAG	284.0	285.0
PRUA	281.3	293.0
RHEINMETAL	426.0	431.0
REL	252.5	256.0
R&H P	226.5	229.0
SALAMANDER	337.0	344.0
SCHERING	636.0	640.0
SCHENKEL	325.0	301.0
SIEMENS	532.1	540.5
THYSEN	216.2	219.5
VERA	350.0	356.0
YARBA	283.5	286.5
VILF	170.0	169.5
VOELSKASIA	320.0	327.7

STOCK		LAST PR-CLSE	NITSUB CP	1530	1560
AJJJINOMOTO	2950	2990	NITSUB EL	1080	1100
AKAI ELEC	705	705	NITSUB EST	2870	2760
AKAI GLE	1440	1330	NITSUB HVT	1150	1170
ASAHI ELE	1990	1990	NITSUI CO	1160	1190
ASAHI OPT	779	775	NITSUKOSHI	2490	2390
BANK TOKYO	1660	1700	NITSIEMI EL	1000	1040
BRIDGESTON	1410	1410	NICHICON	1340	1380
CANON	1520	1520	NIHON CMNT	1280	1310
CASTO COMP	1430	1430	NIKKO SEC	2100	2090
CHUGAI PHM	1530	1560	NIP ELEC	1900	1900
CITIZEN U	957	960	NIP KKOKAN	981	984
D-ICHI KAN	3590	3600	NIP OIL	1740	1780
DAI NIP JK	895	891	NIP STEEL	908	925
DAI NIP PT	2450	2470	NIP YUSEN	928	937
DAI NIP SC	1000	1000	NIS MOTOR	1340	1360
DAI NIP TO	991	1000	NOMURA SEC	3970	4000
DAIEL	882	905	OHBA CO	962	965
DAIWA I	2060	2080	OLYMPUS	1230	1300
DAIWA SEC	2600	2620	PENTA OCN	1260	1190
DAIBA MFG	2140	2120	PIEOMER	3170	3230
FUJIKITA	2140	2140	PIONEER	985	1010
FUJITSU	2140	2140	RICOH	1780	1770
FUJI BANK	3670	3680	SANKYO	2320	2350
FUJI PHOTO	3370	3420	SANTO ELEC	805	812
FUJISAWA	1810	1830	SEIYU ST	2500	2520
FUJETA CP	1640	1630	SEKISUI PB	1950	1980
HITACHI	1600	1630	SHARP	1170	1180
HONDA MOT	2030	2070	SHISEIDO	1690	1660
ISETAN	2470	2420	SONY	7100	7130
KITO YOKADO	4300	4360	SUMITOMO	1430	1410
JAP SYN RU	1150	1170	TAISEI	1520	1510
JAPAN AIR	17400	17100	TAKEDA HRN	1610	1540
JAPAN MET	810	810	TAISHA CH	2480	2530
KAJIMA	2270	2270	TEIJIN	882	890
KANSAI EL	5430	5450	TKO NEW IX	478.82	485.71
KACO SOAP	1680	1720	TOKIO MRN	2340	2290
KAGAWASAKI S	919	939	TOKYO ELEC	1350	1360
KIRATIM BREW	951	966	TOKYO GAS	1360	1380
KOSHIDA	1950	1940	TOKYO POWR	7500	7500
KURABATO LTD.	1120	1160	TORAY IND	1120	974
KYOCERA	965	990	TOTABA EL	1120	1130
KAWAII EL	4910	4930	TOTO	2170	2180
MARUBI	1620	1630	TOYO KOOGY	824	833
MATSUDA EI	2950	2950	TOYOTA MOT	2590	2620
MATSUTA EL	2450	2450	YAMAHA	1490	1430
MEI JI SPK	990	960	YAMATCHI	2030	2060
			YAMANOUCHI	3800	3860
			YAMAZAKI	1620	1580

STOCK	LAST	PR-CLOSE
C H TUNNEL	15.20	15.30
CHENBU K	10.50	10.70
CHINA GAS	19.70	19.70
CHINA L-P	15.30	15.40
CHINA MOTOR	27.00	27.00
COVING RO	3.90	3.95
FAR EAST C	1.14	1.12
G GEN ORIENT	0	44.00
H C DEVELOP	9.65	9.65
H S INDEX	153.73	184.16
HANG LUNG	6.45	6.45
HANG SENG	33.50	34.00
HAW PAR BR	0	11.60
HK ELEC CO	7.75	7.85
HK KOWLOON	10.70	10.70
HK LAND CO	11.00	11.10
HK SHAN BK	7.45	7.50
HK SHAN HT	6.25	6.35
HK TELE CO	5.65	5.75
HUTCH WAM	11.00	11.30
IND EQ PAC	11.50	11.40
JARDINE M	18.40	18.60
KOWLOON N	9.65	9.65
NEW WORLD	15.20	15.40
PAUL Y CON	1.67	1.65
REALTY DEV	0	7.80
S H K CO	3.17	3.12
S H K PROP	15.40	15.50
SINE DARBY	2.60	2.62
STELLUX MFG	3.37	3.45
SHIRE PAC	21.80	22.20
T V C CO	1.40	1.42
TAI CHEUNG	4.80	4.72
UNITED BANK	1.76	1.79
WU LOCK MAR	0	7.25
WU LOCK MARI	0	1.15
WU LOCK INTL	5.05	5.10

TOKYO STOCKS FALL, CLOSE BELOW 32,000
 TOKYO, FEB 13, REUTER - SHARE PRICES FELL ON A BROAD FRONT TO CLOSE FEB 13, 2000 FOR THE FIRST TIME SINCE LAST TUESDAY ON WORRIES OVER THE DOMESTIC POLITICAL SITUATION AND OVERSEAS INTEREST RATES. BROKERS SAID.
 THE BIGGEST WORRY IS THAT THE DIET MAY BE DISSOLVED, AS WELL AS THAT THE U.S. MAY TIGHTEN CREDIT FURTHER BY RAISING THE DISCOUNT RATE IF TRADE FIGURES ON FRIDAY COME OUT STRONG," SAID RYUKI JA/ASHIDA, HEAD OF EQUITY SALES AT KISSEI MAMKATTAN SECURITIES JAPAN.
 THE NIKKEI INDEX FELL 146.67 POINTS, OR 0.46 PCT, TO CLOSE AT 31,985.32.
 THE NIKKEI ROSE 53.56 POINTS TO A RECORD CLOSE OF 32,131.99 ON FRIDAY.
 "THE POLITICAL SITUATION IS DELICATE," SAID A BROKER AT ONE OF THE BIG FOUR BROKERAGES.
 THE RULING LIBERAL DEMOCRATIC PARTY SUFFERED A CRUSHING DEFEAT OVER THE WEEKEND WHEN AN OPPOSITION PARTY MEMBER WON THE BY-ELECTION IN THE SOUTHWESTERN PREFECTURE OF FUKUOKA FOR AN UPPER HOUSE SEAT, POLITICAL ANALYSTS SAID. THIS CAME AFTER PUBLIC SUPPORT FOR THE ADMINISTRATION HAD ALREADY DROPPED SHARPLY. THE RULING PARTY FACES A MAJOR TEST WITH UPPER HOUSE ELECTIONS SCHEDULED FOR MID-YEAR.
 "IT DOESN'T ALLOW FOR A SMOOTH-RIDING GOVERNMENT," SAID STEPHEN CORDINGTON, HEAD OF THE INTERNATIONAL DEPARTMENT AT JARDINE FLEMING SECURITIES LTD. THIS COULD BE A PROBLEM WITH THE UPCOMING BUDGET DEBATE IN THE DIET, HE SAID.
 THE NIKKEI FELL BY AS MUCH AS 179.91 POINTS TO A LOW OF 31,952.08 IN INITIAL TRADE, BUT RECOVERED SOME LOSSES TO REACH A HIGH OF 32,126.54 IN LATE AFTERNOON ACTION.
 THE FIRST SECTION INDEX, OR TOPIX, LOST 6.89 POINTS TO 2,478.82 AFTER A 3.36-POINT DROP ON FRIDAY.
 FALLS OUTPACED RISES BY 649 ISSUES TO 292 IN LIGHT THUNDER OF 1.3 BILLION SHARES, UNCHANGED FROM FRIDAY.

HONG KONG, FEB 13, REUTER - SHARE PRICES ENDED LOWER AFTER INTEREST-RATE RISES IN THE U.S. AND HONG KONG DAMPENED TRADING INTEREST, DEALERS SAID.

THE HANG SENG INDEX FELL 30.43 POINTS TO 3,153.73.

THE HONG KONG ASSOCIATION OF BANKS RAISED THE DOMESTIC PRIME RATE A HALF-POINT TO 10.5 PCT AFTER MAJOR U.S. BANKS RAISED THE PRIME TO 11 PCT ON FRIDAY, SPARKING A 36.97-POINT DECLINE ON WALL STREET.

"I'D LOVE TO FEEL WE'RE GOING TO ROAR ON ... BUT I'M NOT SO SURE, NOT IN THE SHORT-TERM ANYWAY," SAID FERRIS BYE, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF CROSBY SECURITIES.

	OPNG	CLSG	JOR NATIONAL BANK	2.80	2.8
			JOR PAPER CARDBRDG	3.80	3.9
ALA-ADDIN COMPANY	1.72	1.81	JOR PHOSPHATE MINS	3.75	3.8
ARAB ALUMINUM IND.	2.09	2.19	JOR PIPS MANUFAC	1.91	1.8
ARAB BANK	153.0	160.0	JOR PRESS/PUBLISH.	1.80	1.7
ARAB CHEMICAL DTER	4.50	4.35	JOR PRINTING/PACK.	4.25	4.4
ARAB FINANCE CORP.	2.44	2.41	JOR ROCK WOOL IND.	1.06	1.1
ARAB INSURANCE	1.13	1.08	JOR SECURIT CORP.	1.12	1.1
ARAB INT./INV/TRAD.	0.60	0.57	JOR SELPHO CHEM.	2.96	3.3
ARAB INT.UNION INS	1.21	1.25	JOR WOOD INDUSTRY	1.53	1.6
ARAB INTER./HOTELS	0.75	0.79	JOR WORSTED MLL	5.20	5.2
ARAB JOR/INVEST/BK	2.45	2.35	JOR KUMAIT AGR	0.95	1.0
ARAB PAPER COM/TRD	0.43	0.43	JOR. PETROLIUM REF	8.75	8.8
ARAB PHARMA.MANF.	3.29	3.40	JOR.FRENCH INS.	5.45	5.4
ARAB PHARMA/CHEM	0.76	0.75	JOR.INV.F.I.F. CORP	2.64	2.7
ARAB POTASH CO.	---	---	JORADAN GULF REAL	0.36	0.3
ARABIAN SEAS INS.	1.65	1.65	JORDAN DAIRY	1.05	1.0
BANK OF JORDAN	15.95	16.10	JORDAN GULF BANK	1.25	1.2
BELGIUM INSURANCE	1.00	0.95	JORDAN GULF INS.	0.94	0.9
CAIRO AMMAN BANK	31.50	31.00	JORDAN INSURANCE	3.90	4.0
CONFECT/CHOCOLATE	1.05	1.25	JORDAN ISLAMIC BANK	2.14	2.1
DAR AL SHAAB PRESS	0.57	0.60	JORDAN KUMAIT BANK	1.63	1.5
DAR ALMAHA DV/INV.	2.30	2.42	JORDAN TANNING	2.15	2.0
CO/AGENCY/HOUS.	0.83	0.86	LIVESTOCK/POULTRY	0.74	0.7
FINANCE/CREDIT/CO.	0.75	0.71	MACH/VEHIC/MAIN	0.78	0.8
GARAGE OWNERS OF	4.40	4.35	MID EAST EXCHANGES	0.67	0.7
GENERAL INSURANCE	2.39	2.63	MIDLESTERN	1.17	1.1
GENERAL INVESTMENT	1.34	1.30	MIDDEL EAST HOTEL	0.80	0.8
GENERAL MINING.	1.42	1.49	MIDDEL EAST INS.	1.70	1.7
HIMMER MINERALS	0.75	0.75	MINERALS RESEARCH	0.74	0.7
HOLY LAND INS.	1.44	1.44	MAT.FIN.INVEST CO	2.26	2.1
IND./MATCH JENCO	0.75	0.79	NAT/CABEL/WIRE/INF	1.55	1.6
INDSTR DEVLPT BNK	1.73	1.77	NATIONAL AHILA INS	1.50	1.5
INDSTR./COM/AGR.	1.63	1.68	NATIONAL INDUSTRY	0.46	0.4
INDUSTRIAL INVEST.	0.75	0.75	NATIONAL PORTFOLIO	0.99	1.0
INTERN.COM/INV	0.13	0.13	NATIONAL STEEL	2.90	3.0
IRBID ELECTRICITY	0.90	0.90	ORIENT DRY BATTERY	0.25	0.2
ISLAMIC INV. HOUSE	0.64	0.64	PETRA BANK	2.60	2.7
INTERMED/PETRI/CH	1.58	1.66	PETRA JOR.INS.	0.35	0.3
J.TOUR-SP COMPLEX	0.79	0.80	PHILADELPHIA INS.	1.12	1.1
JERUSALEM INS.	1.26	1.29	RAPIA INDUSTRIAL	1.29	1.3
JO TOBACCO/CIGARET	20.00	20.50	RED STATE INV.	0.66	0.6
JOR CERAMIC FACTOR	2.28	2.25	SHIPPING INS.	1.10	1.1
JOR EAGLE INS.	25.05	25.09	SHIPPING WEVING	2.05	2.1
JOR ELECTRIC POWER	1.79	1.79	THE HOUSING BANK	2.05	2.1
JOR FINANCE HOUSE	1.20	1.22	UNITED INSURANCE	1.25	1.2
JOR GLASS INDUSTRY	1.10	1.15	UNIVERSAL CHEM.IND	2.94	3.0
JOR HOTEL TOURISM	2.10	2.30	UNIVERSAL INS.	0.65	0.6
JOR INDUSTRY CHEM.	2.97	2.90	WOOLEN INDUSTRIES	0.93	0.9
JOR INS AND FIN.	1.20	1.20	YAMOUK INSURANCE	1.37	1.3

COMMERCIAL/INDUSTRIAL				SECTOR	BC-A	63.00	63.50	64.00
STOCK	BUY	SELL	OPEN		LC-A	67	68	69
AC-A	13.25	13.50			LC-B	48	49	49
ANS	2.65	2.70	2.65		PX-A	29	30	30
GLO	51.50	52.00			PX-B	29	30	30
PLDT	252.50	255.00	252.50		OIL SECTOR			
KPSI-A	2.80	2.85	2.85		BP-A	.016	.017	.018
KPSI-B	3.40				BP-B	.017	.018	.018
SNC-A	148.00	149.00	148.00		LRC-A	.0034	.0038	
SNC-B	239.00	240.00	239.00		LRC-B	.0036	.004	
MINING SECTOR					OPW-A	.043	.044	.043
APX-A	.02	.021			OPW-B	.044	.045	.044
APX-B	.02	.021	.022		OV-A	.029	.03	.03
AT-A	35.00	35.50	36.00		OV-B	.03	.031	.031

OFFICIAL INFORMATION				
SECTOR	SHARES	VALUE	AVERAGES	CHANGES
COMM-IND.	351,580	9,256,053	953.64	1.21 UP
MINING	43,161,700	7,926,825	4,601.27	80.26 DN
OIL	520,600,000	13,370,550	5.952	0.044 UP
TOTAL	564,113,280	30,553,410	830.15	1.40 DN

COMMERCIAL/INDUSTRIAL SECTOR									
STOCK	BUY	SELL	OPEN	BC-A	64.00	67.00	64.00		
SNC-A	148.00	149.00	148.00	BC-B		91.00			
SNC-B	258.00		240.00	LC-A	.47	.48	.48		
SD-TIRE		37.00		LC-B	.48	.49	.48		
PLDT	252.50	255.00	250.00	ZIP	.0075	.0085			
ANSCOR-A	2.65	2.70	2.70	OIL SECTOR					
GL-A	13.25	13.50	13.50	STOCK		BUY	SELL	OPEN	
ACO	31.50	32.00	31.50	BP-A	.017	.018	.018		
FER-A	2.28		2.28	BP-B	.017	.018	.018		
FER-B	2.40	2.46		LRC-A	.0034		.0036		
				LRC-B	.0034	.004			
MINING SECTOR									
STOCK	BUY	SELL	OPEN	LPM-A	.043	.044	.043		
APX-A	.019	.01	.021	OPM-B	.044	.045	.044		
APX-B	.02	.021	.021	OV-A	.03	.031	.031		
AT-A	35.00	35.50	36.00	OV-B	.03	.031	.031		
AT-B	35.50	37.00		TA	.02	.021	.021		

OFFICIAL INFORMATION			
SECTOR	SHARES	VALUE	AVERAGES
C/I	559,040	7,267,445	946.92
MINING	141,652,700	11,846,425	4384.91
OILS	1,250,350,000	30,912,750	6.450
TOTAL	1,392,561,740	50,026,620	838.95
			CHANGES
			UP 1.20
			DN 45.45
			DN .047
			DN 3.71

NAME	LAST PR	CL	G CORP	RT	KG FLOUR	27	25
ADEF A			G KENT	6	L & M GRP	123	122
ADEF B			G LUMBER	110	N FEEDMIL	----	38
AJINOMOTO			G TOLAN	11	M FLOUR	26	26
ANAL IND	110	20	G U HLDSG	----	M GLASS	230	23
ANAL PROP	149	11	SANDA HDG	35.5	M TIN PRT	60.5	6
ANCOL	24	2	GEN CORP	67	M UTD IND	173	17
BERJAYA	124	12	GENTING	565	M UTD WFG	85	8
BOUSTAD	138	13	GOLD COOH	19	M SHITA	59	59
CARLSBERG	550	55	GSI	143	M HATA	82	81
CEREBO	620	65	GUINNESS	354	MAGNUM	239	23
CHEK IND	300	30	GULA	----	MALEX IND	38	38
CH TANG	356	36	H L IND.	213	WCB HLDSG	81	8
COLD STDR	368	37	HARIMAU	108	METAL BOX	434	43
CS HLDS	51	5	HAW PAR	354	MTC BHD	312	31
DKN		46	HEKZA	72.5	7 MILTIDURP	70	69
DICH BHD	141	13	INHO-PAC	94.5	MURATA	6	6
DUTA CON	----	4	INNOVEST	263	MURATA500		
DUTABABY		43	INSAS	45.5	MATL IRON	595	59
ELEC MAGN	177	17	INT WOOD	7	NOL A	68	68
ESCO ORD	360	37	J CEMENT	133	PERLIS	264	26
EU YAN S.	240	24	JACKS LTD	11	ROTH IND	219	21
FAB F	27	23	JC ENT	106	S FODDER	9	9
F E SHIP	248	24	JC-HPH	113	S PACIFIC	34	34
FEM ORD	745	73	JOHAN HDG	47	S PRESS	840	84
FEB CABLE	----	4	K G HLDSG	89.5	S PRESS F	865	85
FED FLOUR		65	K KELLAS	----	S SHIP	404	40
FJMA BHD		67	KAMUNTING	85.5	S YANO H	184	18
FUJITEC		25	KE SANG	----	S SHANG	10	10
		67	KECK SENG		SHELL ORD	48	48
		25	KEPPEL	344	ST STNSHP	206	20

SINGAPORE STOCK PRICES CLOSE LOWER

SINGAPORE, FEB 13, REUTER - WALL STREET'S 37-POINT FALL ON FRIDAY BROUGHT WIDESPREAD PROFIT-TAKING ON THE LOCAL STOCK MARKET, PUSHING SHARE PRICES LOWER OVER A BROAD FRONT, DEALERS SAID.

THE STRAITS TIMES INDUSTRIAL INDEX LOST 16.34 POINTS TO 1,139.70, WHILE TURNOVER DROPPED TO 70.4 MLN SHARES FROM FRIDAY'S 82 MLN SHARES.

BROKERS SAID PRICES SLIPPED FROM THE OUTSET AS NERVOUS OPERATORS TOOK PROFITS, AND THE SELLING INCREASED FOLLOWING THE TOKYO STOCK MARKET'S 0.46 PCT FALL.

BANK SECTOR	P.CLS	LT	HIGH	LOW	VOL	TRAD
-NATIONAL BANK	1.070	1.070	1.070	1.070	215000	
-GULF BANK	0.365	0.370	0.370	0.370	200000	
-COMMERCIAL BK	0.280	0.275	0.280	0.27	370000	
-AHLJ BANK	0.325	---	---	---	---	
-B.K.M.E	0.360	---	---	---	---	
-K.R.E.B.	0.370	---	---	---	---	
-BURGAN BANK	0.260	0.265	0.270	0.265	600000	
-K.F.HOUSE	0.455	0.445	0.445	0.445	140000	
INVESTMENT SECTOR						
-KWT INV. CO.	0.102	---	---	---	---	
-K.F.T.C.I.C.	0.210	---	---	---	---	
-K.I.I.C.	0.140	---	---	---	---	
-COM.FACILITIES	0.680	---	---	---	---	
-AHLIAH INV.	0.000	---	---	---	---	
-I.F.A.	0.096	---	---	---	---	
-INV. PEARL KWT	0.090	0.086	0.086	0.086	40000	
INSURANCE SECTOR						
-KWT INSURANCE	0.700	---	---	---	---	
-GULF INSURANCE	0.360	---	---	---	---	
-AHLIA INS. CO.	0.580	---	---	---	---	
-MARSA INS. CO.	0.395	0.390	0.390	0.390	20000	
REAL EST. SECTOR						
-KWT R. EST. CO.	0.168	---	---	---	---	
-UNY R. EST. CO.	0.083	---	---	---	---	
-NAT R. EST. CO.	0.192	---	---	---	---	
-SAHLIAH R.E.	0.080	---	---	---	---	
-KWT R.E.I.COM	0.000	---	---	---	---	
INDUSTRY SECTOR						
-NAT IND. CO.	0.540	---	---	---	---	
-KWT M.P. IND.	0.320	---	---	---	---	
-KWT CEMENT CO.	0.170	---	---	---	---	
-REF. IND. CO.	0.405	---	---	---	---	
-W.A.M.T.CO.	0.000	---	---	---	---	
-GULF CABLE	1.110	---	---	---	---	
-K.PH.IND. CO.	0.170	---	---	---	---	
-COMT.MARINE	0.280	---	---	---	---	
-K.SH.REP.CO.	0.045	---	---	---	---	
SERVICES SECTOR						
-OVERLAND TRANS	0.082	---	---	---	---	
-K.L.O.	0.180	---	---	---	---	
-KWT HOTELS CO.	0.170	---	---	---	---	
-P.WAREHOUSING	0.018	0.120	0.120	0.120	60000	
-COM.MKT.CMPX.	0.116	---	---	---	---	
-MOBILE TELE.	0.285	---	---	---	---	
-KWT COMPUTER	0.154	---	---	---	---	
FOOD SECTOR						
-LIVESTOCK T.T.	0.238	---	---	---	---	
-UNTD FISHERIES	0.140	---	---	---	---	
-UNTD POULTRY	0.228	---	---	---	---	
-KWT FOODS	0.295	---	---	---	---	
-AGRI.FOOD PRD.	0.150	---	---	---	---	

-BHM.INTER.BK	0.069	0.069	0.069	0.069	260000	
-BHM.M.EAST.BK	0.052	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
-UNITD.GULF.BK	0.000	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
-COAST.INVEST.	0.085	0.086	0.086	0.086	80000	
-A.G.INV.CORP	0.034	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
-FIRST.GULF.BK	0.550	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
-GULF.MEDICAL.	0.033	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

COMPANIES LISTED ON THE FINANCIAL SECTOR	PARALLEL MARKET	LOW	VOL	TRAD
P.CLS	LT	HIGH		
-GULF INTL INS	0.000	----	----	----
-ARAB INT CO.	0.000	----	----	----
-SHARJAH INS	0.000	----	----	----
-GULF UNION INS	0.000	----	----	----
-R.K.WHITE CMNT	0.000	----	----	----
-AJMAN CEMENT.	0.000	----	----	----
INDUSTRIAL SECTOR				
B-FUJAIRAH CEMENT	0.000	----	----	----
C-SHARJAH CEMENT	0.010	----	----	----
D-GULF CEMENT	0.010	----	----	----

NESTLE I	7305	7340
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STOCK	LAST PR	CLSE	NESTLE PS	1350	1345
BAER HDGS	11450	11200	OE BUEHR I	2250	1250
BALOIASE PS	2230	2260	OE BUEHR P	382	389
BBC I A	2935	2930	OE BUEHR P	356	365
BK LEU I A	3075	3075	ROCHE I	14150	14175
BK LEU M	2550	2530	RUECKVER I	0	38000
BK LEU PS	417	419	RUECKVER I	9975	9900
CFV	0	1150	RUECKVER P	7200	7250
CIG GETG I	3130	3110	RY TR BK	1630	1650
CIG GETG N	2480	2465	S BAKGSL I	3120	3160
CIG GETG P	2490	2475	S BAKGSL N	620	625
CKM	0	1300	S BAKGSL P	115.50	117.50
CRED SUI I	2660	2680	S BAKVRN I	333	334
CRED SUI N	530	530	S BAKVRN P	294.00	296.00
EG LAUFEN	0	1750	S BAKVRN P	295	296
ELEKTROMAT	2930	2950	SAMDOZ I	10150	10275
ENS CHEM I	4450	4400	SAMDOZ N	8700	8650
GLOBUS I	6900	6900	SAMDOZ PS	1850	1860
GLOBUS N	0	7100	SULZER N	5800	5650
GLOBUS PS	1050	1080	SULZER PS	459	453
JACOBS S I	7125	7110	SVB	1740	1760
JACOBS S M	1360	1390	SWISSAIR	1025	1030
JACOBS S P	625	630	SWISSAIR N	955	960
JELM I	2475	2475	W THUR I	4125	4145
JELM PS	360	367	W THUR N	3200	3200
LANDIS N	1350	1370	W THUR PS	680	685
LANDIS PS	121.00	124.00	ZURICH I	4440	4440
			ZURICH N	3415	3400
			ZURICH PS	375	376

BRUSSELS, Feb 13, (Reuter): European Economic Community finance ministers began talks today aimed at strengthening EEC policy on taxing investment income in member states and on tax evasion.

A French-backed plan put up last week by the European Commission for an EEC-wide withholding tax of 15 per cent on most forms of income from investment faced objections from Britain, Luxembourg, the Netherlands and West Germany.

Ministers declined to comment on their positions as they arrived for the talks, but statements after the proposals were published last Wednesday pointed to a stormy debate.

"Our position is well known," Treasury Minister Jacques Poos of Luxembourg told reporters. "I'll give you our side of the story after the meeting," he added.

Last week he said too much was at stake for his country to accept the proposals aimed at limiting tax evasion once exchange controls were lifted community-wide.

Like all tax matters, the proposals must be adopted unanimously by member states before they can become law.

Without a tax on investment income, the commission argues, investors would simply move money to countries where they could escape paying taxes once

EEC exchange controls are abolished.

Even though it could block the proposals on its own, Luxembourg firmly counts on British support.

British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher has already said that any such move "would be a way of alienating capital from this country and also from Europe and sending it overseas."

Banking secrecy is also seen threatened by an accompanying proposal that would provide for closer co-operation between national tax authorities in cases of suspected tax evasion.

Luxembourg says the proposals threaten a leading sector of its economy, the tiny duchy where the penal code does not cover tax evasion has attracted more than 120 banks with a favourable tax system and tight banking secrecy.

West Germany favours a withholding tax, but of only 10 per cent like one which it introduced itself at the start of 1989.

The Netherlands on the other hand wants more stringent measures, demanding that banks be made to report all interest payments to clients automatically to the tax authorities.

A decision to remove the last restrictions on free movement of capital over the next few years was taken last summer and is an important step in creating a single EEC market after 1992.

KUWAIT, Feb 13, (KUNA): Following are the international currency rates as quoted by local banks and announced by the Central Bank of Kuwait, today.

	<i>Buying</i>	<i>Selling</i>
US dollar	0.28763	0.28834
Sterling	0.50251	0.50374
D.M.	0.15367	0.15466
S. fr.	0.18065	0.18182
F. fr.	0.04517	0.04545
L. ira	0.0002106	0.0002122
Jap yen	0.0022328	0.0022477
B. dinar	0.76274	0.76556
UAE Dh.	0.07830	0.07857
Saud riyal	0.07668	0.07694
Qat. riyal	0.07899	0.07926
O. riyal	0.74689	0.74964

KUWAIT, Feb. 13, (Reuters): Kuwaiti dinar deposit rates firmed slightly in the short dates today in moderate trading ahead of Wednesday's 100 million dinar three-month treasury bill issue.

Dealers said banks financing the bills pushed up spot-next rates one point from Sunday to nine, eight per cent with business at 8-1/2 per cent.

Tomorrow-next opened at 7-1/2, 6-1/2 per cent but firmed one-point after eight per cent business. Overnight slipped to 5-1/2, 4-1/2 per cent after opening at Sunday's seven, six per cent.

Deals

The fixed periods were little changed at 8-3/8, 1/8 per cent for the one through three-month maturities and 8-1/2, eight per cent for the longer periods. One-month deals were reported at 8-1/2 and 8-1/4 per cent.

The dinar firmed against the dollar with the Central Bank dinar exchange rate at 0.28797/07 from 0.28804/14 since Saturday. Commercial banks quoted spot rates of around 0.28810/20.

Meanwhile, Saudi riyal deposit rates firmed today in active trade, tagging along on a steady rise in Eurodollar interest rates.

"They are attached to the dollar movement and supported by swaps," said a dealer in Riyadh.

Rates were up to 1/8 point firmer in the fixed periods, but mostly steady in the short dates.

One-month firmed 1/16 point from Sunday at 9-1/2, 3/8 percent, but three months were steady at 9-5/8, 1/2. Six months edged up 1/16 point to 9-13/16, 11/16 and one-year 1/8 point to 10-1/9, 10.

Firmed
In the short dates, spot-next and one-week firmed 1/4 point on the bid side to 9-1/2, 1/4.

In London, Eurodollar rates opened generally firm after US banks raised their prime lending by half a point to 11 per cent on Friday.

The spot rial eased to 3.7507/10 to the dollar from 3.7505/08 on Sunday.

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Gold prices drop sharply

Rising US interest rates boost dollar

LONDON, Feb 13, (Reuters): The dollar, propelled by higher US bank interest rates, leapt nearly one pfmig in Europe today, but stocks markets slumped world-wide as investors shifted funds into more profitable dollar assets.

Asian share markets were unnerved by Friday's 37-point drop on Wall Street's Dow Jones Industrial average and in London the FTSE index of 100 leading key shares had slumped by 32.5 points to 2,023.6 by midday today.

Gold

Gold fell sharply. It was set at \$384.30 an ounce in London today, down almost \$6 from Friday.

Financial markets were jittery after US banks on Friday increased their prime rates — the interest charged to their best customers — to 11 per cent from 10.5 per cent.

That move caused investors to wonder whether the US Federal Reserve might push up its discount rate and whether West Germany's Bundesbank might tighten monetary policy further after raising leading interest rates in mid-January.

"A US prime rate rise will be an extra reason for the Bundesbank to raise interest rates," said Bank of America dealer Gerhard

Sonderdick in Frankfurt. The dollar traded at around 1.87 marks in London at midday compared with Friday's close of 1.8605 and a five-month high of nearly 1.89 marks a week ago. It was unchanged at 128.45 yen.

Concerted Central Bank dollar sales knocked the US currency off its highs last week and dealers expected more selling this week to try to put a lid on the US currency.

A welter of crucial US economic data due out this week was expected to help keep dealers on their toes.

Further clues to the US economy's strength are expected from US January retail sales figures tomorrow, industrial production on Wednesday and December trade figures on Friday.

Nervous

Markets like governments to be strict with inflation but they fret if the interest rate medicine is too strong.

High rates siphon money out of stocks to interest-bearing assets, while pinching business profits and perhaps depressing spending to the point where economic expansion stalls.

In other stock markets, West German shares were down across the board and French shares opened sharply lower.

Comments by French

President Francois Mitterrand yesterday made traders nervous that he may develop a more interventionist economic policy. In a French television interview he attacked what he called "take-over mania" and said he planned measures to curb foreign acquisitions of French companies.

Earlier in Tokyo share prices fell on a broad front with the Nikkei average closing below 32,000 for the first time since last Tuesday on worries over the domestic political situation and overseas interest rates, brokers said.

"The biggest worry is that the Diet may be dissolved, as well as that the US may tighten credit further by raising the discount rate if trade figures on Friday come out strong," said Ryuki Hayashida, head of equity sales at Chase Manhattan Securities Japan.

The Nikkei finished 146.67 points down at 31,985.32.

Relatively

In Sydney, the All-Ordinaries index ended down 29.6 at 1,479.4 and Hong Kong's Hang Seng index fell 30.43 to 3,153.73.

On oil markets, Brent blend from Britain's North Sea was a shade lower for March delivery at \$15.65 a barrel while the US Treasury benchmark long bond

was quoted at midday in London at about 99-1/32 per cent yielding 9.09 per cent.

In London, equities stood near their lows in late trade after an easier opening on Wall Street, but volume was relatively light and a modest 380 million shares had changed hands by 1500 GMT.

Stocks eased amid worries over higher inflation. UK Chancellor of the Exchequer Nigel Lawson said inflation in January rose to over seven per cent after an annualised 6.8 per cent in December.

By 1555 GMT the FTSE 100 was down 29.9 points at 2,026.2 after a high of 2,037.3 and a low of 2,020.9.

Rally

The market staged a short-lived rally just before midday on news UK retail sales in January fell a much larger than expected 1.5 per cent, after the revised 0.3 per cent rise in December.

However, the good news on the retail sales front was offset by higher than anticipated producer price figures for the same month, which soon capped the rally, dealers said.

"The CBI (Confederation of British Industry) survey had already flagged a good retail sales figure so it was already built into prices," one trader commen-

ted. The CBI distributive trades survey, published early today, suggested sales growth in stores slowed much more in January than in December.

Decline

Today's London market fall was also prompted by a decline in share prices in New York and Tokyo.

Dealers said the worries over inflation will remain in place until Friday when Britain's main measure of inflation, the retail price index, is published.

Economists are looking for the index to show a monthly increase of 0.4 per cent, after a 0.3 per cent rise in December, that would give a year-on-year rise of 7.2 per cent.

The retail sector suffered from the drop in retail sales and the implications of higher inflation on its profits. Many in the sector posted percentage declines larger than the wider market.

Slipped

Among stores, Storehouse fell 8p to 181 and Marks and Spencer 5p to 167 while GUS slipped 42p to 1,066 extra the 10p interim dividend. Analysts are worried about future earnings because lower sales will mean an increase in stock levels.

The food sector was hit by the latest UK food poisoning scare, concerning dairy products.

Fed may further tighten credit

KD market relatively tight

Kuwaiti dinar

BASED on last week opening middle market foreign exchange rates, the Kuwaiti dinar remained almost unchanged against dollar ending the week at 288.21 fils compared with its week before last closing of 288.08 fils. The KD remained almost unchanged against the pound sterling, ending the week at 503.94 fils compared with its week before last closing of 503.85 fils.

The KD was slightly easier against Deutschmark ending the week at 154.31 fils compared with its week before last closing of 154.15 fils. The KD was also easier against the Swiss franc ending the week at 181.49 fils compared with its week before last closing at 181.07 fils, according to the Gulf Bank weekly market report.

The KD moved sharply lower against the Jordanian dinar ending the week at 531.75 fils compared with its week before last closing at 489.93 fils. This was mainly attributed to the recent move taken by the Central Bank of Jordan in fixing the exchange rate of the dinar against the US dollar. The KD remained almost unchanged against other GCC currencies.

The KD money market was relatively tight. KD rates have firmed. Rates for one month were between 8 per cent - 8-5/16 per cent range compared with 7-11/16 - 8-5/16 per cent range the week before last. Rates for other periods were between 8-3/16 per cent - 8-3/8 per cent range for 3 months and 8-5/16 - 8-1/2 per cent for 6 months and one year.

The CBK announced its issue No. 40 for treasury bills dated 15/2/1989 at KD100 million.

World stocks

Wall Street stock prices moved higher earlier in the week as investors were encouraged by the perception that President Bush will take strong steps to address US budget problems and spurred by General Motors' decision to raise its common stock dividends

and split its shares two-for-one. However, prices fell sharply later in the week as investors, sceptical about President Bush's budget plans and unnerved by a surge in January producer prices and a round of prime rates increases, sold shares.

Share prices on the London Stock Exchange continued to firm earlier in the week, reflecting gains on Wall Street coupled with institutional demand and continuing stock shortages, before easing later in the week or disappointment with President Bush's budget speech causing weakness which was compounded by an unexpectedly large rise in the US January producer price index.

US dollar

The US dollar ended the week sharply higher, recouping all of its big setback on Thursday, following an unexpected jump of one per cent in the producer prices index for January after a 0.5 per cent rise in December which raised expectations of higher US interest rates.

Earlier in the week, central banks intervention underscored comments made by the G-7 officials in Washington that there would be continued intervention to prevent the currency rising beyond the top of its target range.

The dollar is likely to keep on rising, bolstered by an increase in the US prime rates and expectations that the Fed will further tighten credit. However, central bank intervention could stall its rise. Near-term direction could also be swayed by economic statistics for December US merchandise trade, and January US retail sales, capacity utilisation and industrial production.

Japanese yen

The yen opened the week against the dollar at 129.33/38 and closed higher at 128.65/75 compared to its week before last closing of 129.20/30. Over the week the yen traded in a narrow range against the dollar while a cautious mode prevailed in the

market ahead of US President George Bush's budget speech to Congress.

The yen/dollar rate hardly moved because investors equally sold and bought the currency for speculative reasons.

Deutschmark

The mark opened the week against the dollar at 1.8712/17 marks and closed lower at 1.8705/15 marks compared to its week before last closing of 1.8610/20. Against a basket of 14 major currencies the mark lost 1.7 per cent of its value since the start of the year.

The mark is expected to trade strongly against the dollar in the coming few weeks, and we would expect a trading range between 1.84 and 1.86 marks, given that US Federal Reserve does not raise its discount rate.

Pound sterling

The pound traded against the dollar in a very narrow range. It opened the week at \$1.7573/83 reached a high of \$1.7625/35, before closing at \$1.7465/75 dollars, near the previous week's closing of \$1.7425/35.

French franc

The French franc ended the week against the dollar at 6.3655/85 franc, near its opening level of 6.3675/85 franc, but higher compared to its week before last closing of 6.3830/60 francs. Finance Minister Bergeyvoy said lower world interest rates would depend on the US framing policies to cut its federal budget deficit.

Swiss franc

The Swiss franc opened the week against the dollar at 1.5893/98 francs and closed slightly higher at 1.5900/10 francs, compared to its week before last closing of 1.5940/50 francs. A jump in Switzerland's annual inflation rate to 2.2 per cent in January reinforces predictions of higher inflation to come, but will not force the Swiss National Bank to tighten further its already restrictive monetary policy. 1989 inflation is projected at two per cent to three per cent by the Bank.

Gulf non-oil sectors continue to move ahead

Surge in private capital inflow stimulates economy

THE YEAR 1988 closed on several positive developments: the end of hostilities between Iran and Iraq, a new OPEC accord limiting the organisation's production to 18.5 BPD for the first half of 1989, strong economic growth in the industrialised countries generating higher demand for oil, further rapprochement between the two super powers enhancing the geopolitical outlook of the world economy, and an apparent stability of the US dollar in the exchange markets to which the Gulf currencies are in effect pegged, according to Henry T. Azzam, the chief economist of Gulf International Bank.

These developments together with the recently released non-contradictory 1989 budget for Saudi Arabia and the slightly expansionary budgets for Kuwait, Oman, Bahrain and Qatar gave a boost to the overall level of optimism in the region.

Growth

While no one is forecasting economic boom in 1989, growth in domestic demand will continue and a general resumption of normal business is widely expected.

The 22 per cent drop in oil prices last year, from an average of \$17.5 a barrel for Arabian light crude in 1987 to an average of around \$13.7 a barrel in 1988, has had a telling impact on the region's external sectors and

overall economic growth conditions.

The contribution of the oil sectors to the GDP of the respective Gulf countries is still sizeable, ranging from 20 per cent in Bahrain, to 28 per cent in Saudi Arabia and for more than 35 per cent in other Gulf countries. Nevertheless, the decline in oil prices did not have the same impact on all the countries of the region.

Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and UAE invariably boosted upward their oil production, offsetting to a large extent the drop in prices.

With the exception of Saudi Arabia which reported a higher GDP growth last year compared to the year before, official 1988 growth rates for the other Gulf countries are still not available. However, it would not be unrealistic to assume generally lower overall GDP growth rates to have been recorded last year.

The non-oil sectors of the economy continued to move ahead in 1988 with domestic demand picking up momentum especially in the fourth quarter.

Indicators pointing in that direction include the noticeable improvement in commerce and retail sales activities, higher commercial bank profits, the gradual recovery in construction and housing activities, the slight improvement in rents and the upturn in real estate prices.

Land prices in the UAE for

example rose by an average of around 20 per cent last year, with the highest increase recorded in Dubai of up to 25 per cent. Real estate prices were higher as well in the other Gulf states albeit at lower rates than those of the UAE.

Improvement

Another significant indicator of the improvement in domestic economic activities is the generally higher prices of stocks traded in the region.

Share prices in Saudi Arabia continued their upward trend last year with the CCFI stock market index up 11.1 per cent following an 8.2 per cent increase in 1987.

This increase in the stock market index does not fully reflect the surge of certain Saudi stock prices. For example, share prices of SABIC petrochemical company, a market leader, were 167 per cent higher on the year. Furthermore, the four new issues offered to Saudi investors last year were heavily over-subscribed.

Prices

Shares in the UAE also performed well with the increase in prices exceeding 50 per cent for certain stocks. National Bank of Abu Dhabi saw its share price rising by 32 per cent over the year, while the share price of Abu Dhabi Co-operative Society was up by 50 per cent.

Share prices performed equally well in Bahrain with the rise in the share price of National Bank of Bahrain, a market leader, exceeding 50 per cent.

The performance of Kuwait's stock market was lacklustre. The AI Shall stock market index ended the year at 41.21 points, a 1.4 per cent drop from the 1987 level of 41.81 points. The declaration of ceasefire in the Gulf war boosted Kuwaiti share prices by 17 per cent. However, most of this gain was lost later on in the year following the hike in KD interest rates.

The AI Shall index for the shares of Gulf companies traded in Kuwait's stock market also dropped on the year by around 5 per cent.

Normal GDP growth rates were generally lower in 1988 than the year before due mainly to the decline in oil revenues not fully made up for by a continuing surge in the non-oil sectors.

In Saudi Arabia, GDP recorded an impressive 3.2 per cent growth in real terms (4.3 per cent in nominal terms) with GDP deflator of 1.1 per cent, compared to 4.7 per cent the year before and annual double digit negative growth rates during the period 1983-1986.

Non-oil GDP was reported to have grown by 1.6 per cent in 1988 compared to 1987's growth of 0.8 per cent and following declines of 3.2 per cent and 8.3

per cent in 1986 and 1985 respectively. The growth in last year's exports of 10 per cent was lower than the 15.5 per cent growth recorded in 1987.

However, non-oil exports posted a phenomenal 45.8 per cent growth in 1988, more than offsetting the 7 per cent increase in imports. This growth was mainly due to a surge in the Kingdom's refining activities and petrochemical production.

Agriculture continued to do well following the 14 per cent growth recorded in 1987. Two other factors also helped the economy last year: a surge in private capital inflow seeking improved domestic investment opportunities and credit expansion by financial institutions.

Activities

After being subdued in the first half of the year, economic activities in Kuwait started picking up in the second half following the declaration of a ceasefire in the Gulf war. GDP growth in 1988 is estimated at around 2 per cent, less than half the 5 per cent growth rate recorded in 1987.

Kuwait was able to boost its oil production last year to an average of 1.5 million BPD up from the 1987 average of 1.215 million BPD, neutralizing to a large extent the impact of lower oil prices on the country's oil revenues.

(To be continued)

UAE to sign economic pact with Iran

ABU DHABI, Feb 13, (AP): The United Arab Emirates will shortly sign an agreement with Iran for improving economic, political and cultural ties, the Iranian ambassador to Abu Dhabi was quoted as saying yesterday.

"A high-level UAE economic official will visit Tehran shortly to draft the UAE-Iranian pact, which will coincide with a joint agreement between Iranian Airways and Gulf Air," Mustafa Fomeini Haeri told the UAE Arabic daily Al Wahda.

Gulf Air is owned by the governments of Abu Dhabi, the leading emirate and capital of the UAE federation, Bahrain, Oman and Qatar.

The Abu Dhabi-based paper today published a four-page supplement on the 10th anniversary of the Iranian revolution, the first such a gesture since the start of the Gulf war in 1980.

The UAE, a traditional trading partner with Iran, had maintained friendly ties with Tehran through the eight years of the Iran-Iraq war.

The UAE is member of the six-nation GCC which also groups Oman, Qatar, Bahrain, Kuwait and Saudi Arabia.

Haeri hailed UAE President Sheikh Zayed Bin Sultan Al Nahyan for his neutral stance during the Iran-Iraq war, and said this was "a far-sighted policy" that was going to lead to "bright and flourishing future relations."

Most of Iran's imports from the UAE come through Dubai, the second largest emirate which re-exported last year goods to Iran worth \$1 billion, Iranian diplomats in Dubai said.

Also yesterday, Iran was reported as seeking help from the UAE to revive its offshore and onshore oil drilling activities, which had come to a standstill during the Gulf war.

WORLD STOCK ROUNDUP

SYDNEY, Feb 13, (Reuters): A 37-point fall on Wall Street on Friday sent shock waves through an already shaky Australian share market, prompting its largest one-day fall since mid-November. The All Ordinaries closed down 29.6 at 1,479.4.

TOKYO: Shares fell on a broad front to close below 32,000 for the first time since last Tuesday on worries over the domestic political situation and overseas interest rates. The Nikkei index fell 146.67 to close at 31,985.32.

HONG KONG: Share prices ended lower after interest-rate rises in the US and Hong Kong dampened trading interest. The

Hang Seng index fell 30.43 to 3,153.73.

SINGAPORE: Wall Street's Friday fall brought widespread profit-taking on the local stock market, pushing share prices lower over a broad front. The Straits Times industrial index lost 16.34 points to 1,139.70.

BOMBAY: Shares dropped on a broad front on speculative selling in a market devoid of support. Rumours of a cabinet reshuffle ahead of the state budget at the end of the month kept buyers away after the market opened steady.

FRANKFURT: Fears that world interest rates will continue

rising pushed West German shares lower in moderate trading. The DAX index closed 19.45 points lower at 1,333.77.

ZURICH: Swiss share prices closed slightly easier above earlier lows after cautious buying at the lower levels reduced earlier losses. The All-Share index lost 3.4 points to close at 970.9.

PARIS: French share prices ended off lows in relatively active afternoon business after technical problems halted continuous trading in the morning. The 50-share price indicator ended 1.82 per cent down.

LONDON: Equities stood near their lows in late trade after an easier opening on Wall Street, but volume was relatively light. By 1555 GMT, the FTSE 100 was down 29.9 points at 2,026.2.

Oil prices little changed

LONDON, Feb 13, (Reuters): Oil prices were little changed today in quiet business, traders said.

Trading was dampened by a series of social functions taking place this week in London leading up to the annual Institute of Petroleum dinner on Wednesday.

Towards the close of European business, North Sea Brent blend, the most widely traded crude, was unchanged at \$16.50 a barrel.

The main US crude, West Texas Intermediate, showed little change at \$17.30, while the key Middle East grade, Dubai, slipped 15 cents to \$14.10 a barrel.

Beijing tightens controls at home

China's overseas investment booming

BEIJING, Feb 13, (Reuters): China's investment abroad is booming — from restaurants in Africa to a proposed mill in the United States — but at home the state is trying to reassert central control over an economy in chaos.

Last year, China spent \$150 million on opening a record 168 businesses abroad, the China Daily said today.

In the pipeline is a Chinese-run \$1-billion pulp mill in the United States, if government negotiations are successful, and a steel plant in Malaysia with \$100 million worth of Chinese equipment.

Exploit

Joint ventures in Pakistan and Zambia to exploit copper resources are also planned, the official newspaper said.

"The paramount principle of our investment abroad is that the businesses must be mutually beneficial," senior foreign investment official Chen Yongcai was quoted as saying.

When Chinese leader Deng

Xiaoping launched his bold economic reforms to rejuvenate a stagnated economy, Beijing had barely a cent invested abroad.

Ten years later, China is involved in 553 projects in 79 countries and regions with a total investment of \$2 billion — much of it borrowed from foreign banks.

"We've been using foreign money to earn foreign money," Chen said.

He predicted that the domestic austerity programme launched last September to contain inflation and overheating would not affect overseas investment.

Clampdown "China, after decades of isolation, is being drawn more and more into world markets. This trend will continue despite the clampdown at home," a Western banker commented.

China's businesses include a restaurant in Burkina Faso, a US timber company, an aluminium smelter and iron ore mine in Australia and even a tourist resort in

the Bahamas.

Success takes time. Five to six per cent of China's foreign ventures are running at a loss and 20 to 30 per cent make only minimal profits because of poor market planning and bad management, Chen said.

China's rapprochement with the Soviet Union — to be sealed by a Sino-Soviet summit in May — has resulted in talks to establish joint ventures in the chemical, oil, construction and light industrial sectors.

The main problem is the Soviet Union's lack of hard currency, Chen added.

Control While spending soars abroad, the government is struggling to contain domestic budgets and reassert its central control to cool an overheated economy and reduce inflation.

The government has decided to monopolise trade in vital commodities such as chemical fertiliser, pesticide, diesel oil, steel, non-ferrous metals and chemical raw materials, a senior econ-

omist has announced.

Administrative budgets of government institutions will be cut by 10 per cent this year, Song Tingming said in the latest issue of New China quarterly.

A Western diplomat said the central government was trying to impose order and re-establish its monopoly over certain commodities because a two-tier system of low state prices and higher free market prices had led to chaos and widespread corruption and added to inflation.

Inflation The Communist Party has pledged that inflation in 1989 will be substantially lower than last year, when prices rose an average 18.5 per cent, highest since the 1949 revolution.

China's economic forecasting department has predicted industrial output will grow by 12 per cent this year, down from almost 18 per cent in 1988, because of tighter credit control and higher interest rates, the official New China News Agency said yesterday.

Dear Junior readers,

Happy Valentines Day: Today, February 14th, is named after two early Italian saints. Today birds are believed to choose their mates and young men to single out their sweethearts by giving them flowers and sending out poems.

Why not make a pretty card for someone you care for? Use bright red hearts or dried flowers. Add a short message to give the card special value.

Manal.

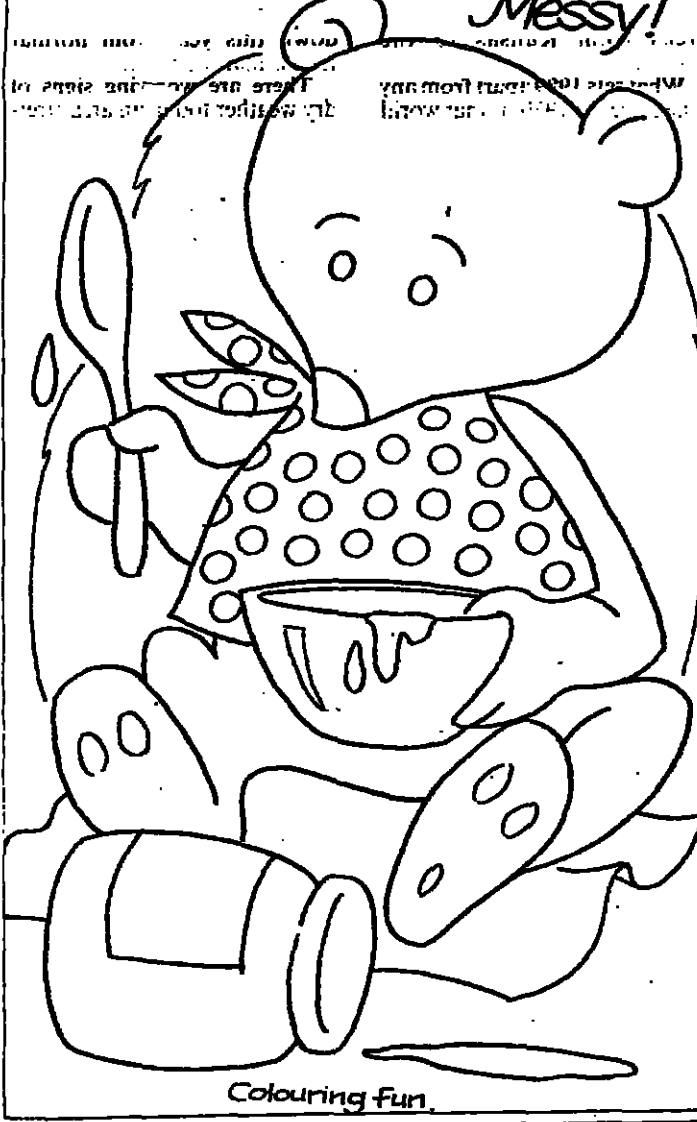
February

Ha, Snow upon the crags!
How slow the winter lags!
Ha, little lamb upon the crags
How fearlessly you go.
Take care up there,
You little woolly atom! On and on
He goes... 'tis steep... Hillo
My friend is gone!

T. E. Brown



Colour me



Colouring fun.

Solution to Thursday's puzzle
1. Nuts and bolts 2. Paymaster 3. Stationer 4. Historian 5. Dramatist 6. Tradesman
7. Inspector 8. Dispenser 9. Tragedian 10. Tailor 11. Secretary 12. Shoemaker
13. Butcher 14. Waitress 15. Postman 16. Painter 17. Carpenter 18. Jeweller
19. Doctor 20. Farmer 21. Teacher 22. Soldier 23. Sailor 24. Pilot 25. Astronaut

SPAS EACH LINE FLED

The boy who changed himself

THERE was once a boy called John who was unkind to his mother. This sounds dreadful, but it was perfectly true.

John was rude and he was unkind. He was not rude or unkind to anyone else, and he was always careful to be polite and kind to his father.

He had a nice mother. She had a kind face, and she loved John dearly. She gave him nice food to eat and bought him lovely toys. But if she asked John to run to the post for her, or to go and fetch something, he never would!

"Don't bother me, Mother!" he would say. "I'm busy!"

And if his mother did not give him the pudding he liked at dinner-time he would push away his plate and say rudely, "I won't have this pudding. I don't like it!"

Once, when he was reading, his mother said, "Sit up, John dear! Your back is all crooked!"

And John said, "Be quiet! I'm reading!"

Would you suppose any child could talk like that to his own mother? Well, John did!

Now one night a very strange thing happened. The moon shone into John's room and he lay looking up at it — and then, to his great astonishment, he saw some small men walking solemnly down the silver moonbeams, right into his bedroom! They had long beards reaching to their toes and grave blue eyes and stern mouths. John sat up in bed and stared.

"Good evening," said the men politely. "Will you come with us? You are wanted by the Chooser."

"Who is the Chooser?" said John, puzzled. He got out of bed and put on his dressing-gown. This was an adventure!

"You will see," said the

little men, and they took John up the moonbeams. They were slippery to walk on, but quite firm. John walked on for a long way and then, to his surprise, came to a little dark house balanced some way up the moonbeams. It had wings, and had flown there, for it still kept flapping them and the strange house was a little. Some one opened the door, and John and the bearded men went inside.

The room inside was perfectly round. In the middle was a small table and at it sat the Chooser. He was an old man, very wrinkled, very wise, very stern. He had before him an enormous book, in which he was writing names with a great quill pen.

"Here is John. Your Excellency," said one of the bearded men. The Chooser looked at John. He had queer eyes. They saw right down into John's mind and thought his thoughts!

"Well, John," said the Chooser, turning over the pages of his big book until he came to the letter J's. "I've brought you here to change you to some one else. I hear that you don't like your mother, so I thought I'd let some one else be her boy, and you can go into a home where there is no mother. I don't like to see mothers wasted."

"Mine isn't wasted," said John, alarmed.

"Oh, yes, she is," said the Chooser, taking up his pen and looking for John's name in the book. "Any mother is wasted if she can't get her children to love her."

"But I do love her!" said John, surprised.

"No, Your Excellency, he doesn't," said one of the bearded men. "He wouldn't fetch her a handkerchief yesterday."

"And he grumbled because she wanted him to shut the door on Thursday," said another.

"And he was rude to her six times to-day," said a third. "I heard him."

"And last week, when his mother said he must put on his scarf because it was cold, he told his mother she was silly, and when she said he must put on his scarf he rushed out, slammed the door and shouted, 'I hate you!'" said the first little man.

"Ah, yes, he certainly doesn't want a mother," said the Chooser. "I'm sorry I chose him to be her boy now. I'll choose some one who wants a kind mother and hasn't got one. Now here's a girl called Joan — longing to be loved."

"I do want my mother!" said John, almost in tears. "I didn't really mean I hated her. I only just said it."

"But he didn't say he was sorry afterwards," said the Chooser. "So she thought perhaps he meant it. She was very sad that night. She cried a lot!"

"This is very serious," said the Chooser, looking at John. "When mothers cry there is something very wrong. It is plain that a mother is wasted on you. I will choose a new home for you to-morrow."

"Oh, please don't!" begged John. "My mother loves me, although I am horrid — she does really. You would make her unhappy if you changed me."

"Mothers are queer people," said the Chooser, shaking his head. "No, John, you must be changed. I won't have your mother wasted — such a nice one, too!"

"You needn't change me!" said John suddenly. "I'll change myself. Give me another chance, Mr



Chooser. I'll change myself so that I'm quite a different boy. I couldn't bear to lose my mother!"

"Very well," said the Chooser, shutting his book. "See if you can change yourself. If you can't, I'll send for you again, and change you for some one else. Take him away, please."

The bearded men took John out of the house. They sat him on the slanting moonbeams and gave him a push. He slid all the way down and landed on his own bed — bump! How queer!

"To-morrow I begin to change myself!" said John. "Telling me I don't love my mother indeed! Of course I do! I'll show that Chooser something!"

Well, he did! He gave his mother a hug first thing in the morning to start the day off! He looked at her

kind face and thought how he would make her smile that day! Love his mother, indeed! Of course he did!

"I couldn't tell you the times John ran errands for his surprised mother that day! I couldn't tell you the number of hugs he gave her! I couldn't tell you how astonished — and delighted — she was! She simply couldn't believe it!"

"Why, I do believe you love me, John!" she said at the end of the day.

"Course I do!" said John. "You're the nicest mother in the world! I always knew that even when I was horrid to you!"

"Well, that was last week — and John is still being kind and loving! Do you suppose it will last? I hope so, because it would be dreadful if he lost his mother after all, wouldn't it! Mind you keep yours safely!"

Ha! Ha!

What musical instrument goes with cheese? Pickle-o.

What do you call a rifle with three barrels? A trifle.

Why did the shopkeeper put bells on his scales? So that they would jingle all the weight.

What is the best way to catch an elephant? Act like a bun and he'll follow you anywhere.

"A black and white cat crossed my path today — since then my luck has been decidedly patchy."

Who tells chicken jokes? Comedihens.

BEN: Is your dog a watch dog?

KEN: Yes.

BEN: Can he tell me the time?

"Doctor, doctor, I think I'm a clock."
"Well, don't get wound up about it."

"Daddy, Daddy, there's a man at the door with a bill."
"Don't be silly it must be a duck with a hat on."

What four letters end a game of hide-and-seek? OICU.

NURSE: There is an invisible man in the room.
DOCTOR: Tell him I can't see him.

"Doctor, doctor, I keep thinking I'm a plum."
"You really are in a jam, aren't you?"

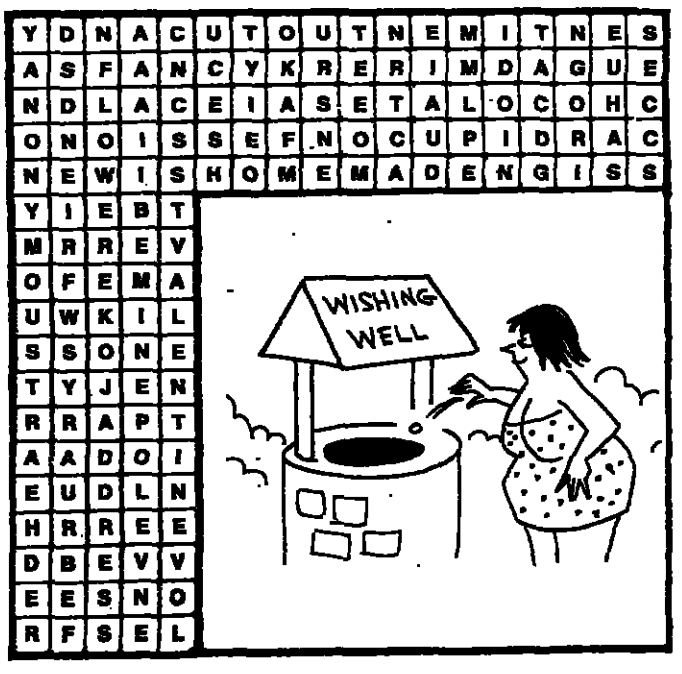
"Doctor, doctor, I keep thinking I'm a dumpling."
"Don't get in such a stew."

When can a car drive over water?
When it is on a bridge.

What can't you see that is always before you?
The future.

FEBRUARY 14

ADDRESS	ENVELOPE	LACE
ADVICE	FANCY	LOVE
AMOUNTS	FEBRUARY	RED HEARTS
BEHIND	FLOWER	SENTIMENT
CANDY	FRIENDS	SIGNED
CARD	HOMEMADE	ST. VALENTINE
CHOCOLATES	JOKE	SWEETHEART
COMMISSION	KISS	WISH
CUPID		
CUT-OUT		



Cue: How to identify a Valentine card sender? (5 letters)

Solution to Thursday's crossword
Across: 1. Contractor; 7. Grilled; 8. Tip; 9. Stern; 11. Hail; 13. Tot; 15. Cock; 17. Hoops; 21. Rink; 23. Candour; 25. Incomprehensible
Down: 1. Caper; 2. Nod; 3. Tangle; 4. Under; 5. Tides; 6. Ripper; 10. Two; 12. Imp; 14. Thrace; 15. Corp; 16. Comic; 18. Oases; 19. Sprat; 20. Scum

Collection corner: Newspaper clippings

MOST families have a newspaper every day, and some have two or three, and it is not difficult to make a collection of papers or cuttings. Really old papers of course can be very valuable, but everyday papers are just as much fun to read and keep. If you have space, whole newspapers can be collected, but they do take up a lot of room. This is worthwhile for special issues for coronations, royal weddings or funerals, or for events like the first moon landing, or for disasters or happenings which particularly interest you. You could just collect a whole newspaper each year on your birthday and see what has happened over quite a long period, and how fashions and ideas change. Keep the papers clean and uncrumpled and away from mice or insects.

Cuttings are easier to collect and can be made up into collages, scrap screens or book covers. If you want to use scrapbooks, make sure they are big, as photographs or cartoons should be kept whole, although the printed text can be cut if necessary. Mount the cuttings with the name of the paper and the date.

A lot of people have made interesting collections of news about the royal family through the years. Others collect all the information about their favourite sport, or cup finals, or certain crimes. You might collect information on space exploration, or on discoveries in science or archaeology, or on clever animals, or on the theatre or ballet. You might like to collect cartoons by your favourite artist, or about special subjects such as politics. If you like jokes, try collecting misprints, or only headlines containing your name or initials. Your name might be quite ordin-

DAILY EXPRESS
Friday August 3 1974

EXIT NIXON
Drama as L.S. waits to hear him say it

Instant history in a newspaper headline
Unintentional jokes often occur in headlines



Doctors beat years
A doctor who has clearly cracked on Sunday

Evening Standard 4
HOMAGE TO THE UNCORRUPTED KING

Musician's cat warns of blaze
A good example of a story about a clever animal
Evening Standard Reporter

The royal family is a popular subject for newspaper collectors

ary, but if it is the same as someone who is often in the news, you will find a lot of funny headlines which apply to you as well.

"THE LITTLE HEDGE SPARROW"

Sing, little hedge sparrow
Sing your best.
Tell me about your dear little nest!

Oh, little child,
It is here on the bough,
There are five little eggs in it, now, now, now!

They are blue as the sky,
Will you peep in and see?
They belong to my wife and to me, me, me!

Oh, little hedge sparrow,
They are the best.
That ever I've seen in a nest, nest, nest!

Komal Bajaj,
III 'G',
Carmel School.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

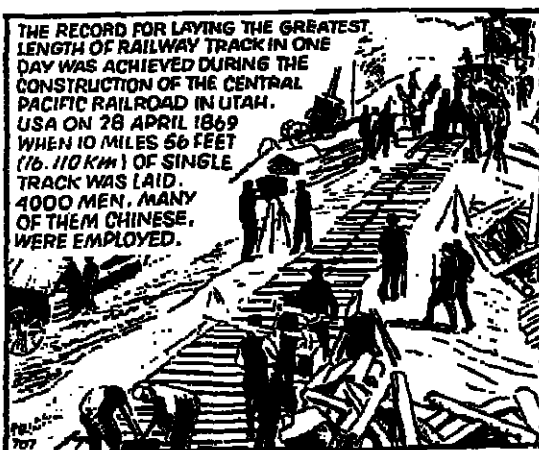


Humaid Tayab celebrates his birthday today. Many happy returns of the day from mummy, daddy, Hamid, Waseem and Joaved.

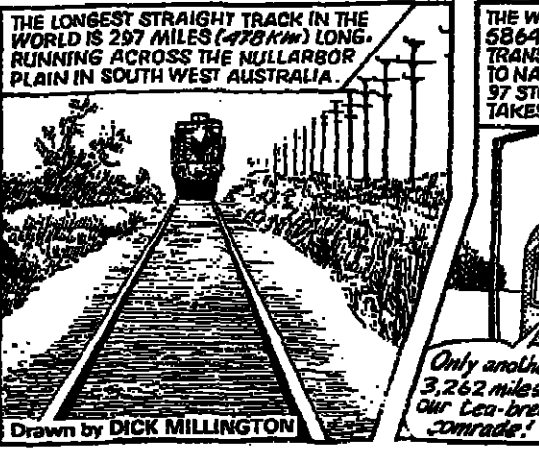


Michael Valentine Lucas, celebrated his 9th birthday on 13th February. Best wishes from mummy, daddy and family.

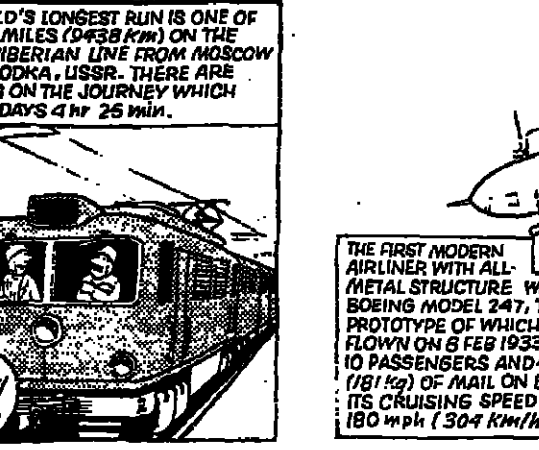
Factfile FROM THE GUINNESS BOOK OF RECORDS



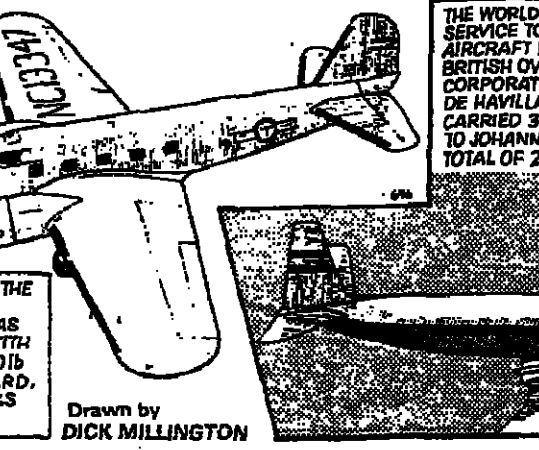
THE RECORD FOR LAYING THE GREATEST LENGTH OF RAILWAY TRACK IN ONE DAY WAS ACHIEVED DURING THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE CENTRAL PACIFIC RAILROAD IN UTAH, USA ON 28 APRIL 1869 WHEN 10 MILES 66 FEET (16.10 KM) OF SINGLE TRACK WAS LAID. 4000 MEN, MANY OF THEM CHINESE, WERE EMPLOYED.



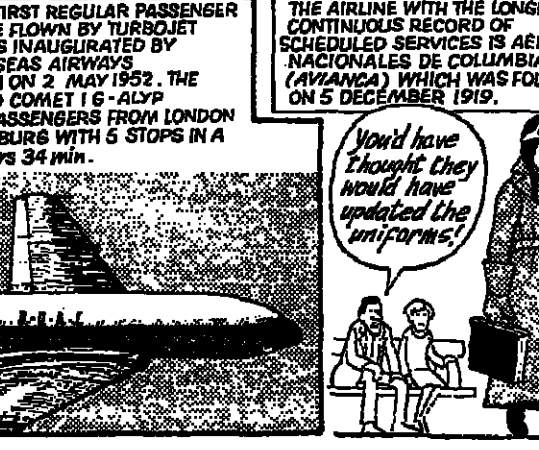
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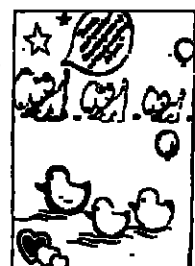
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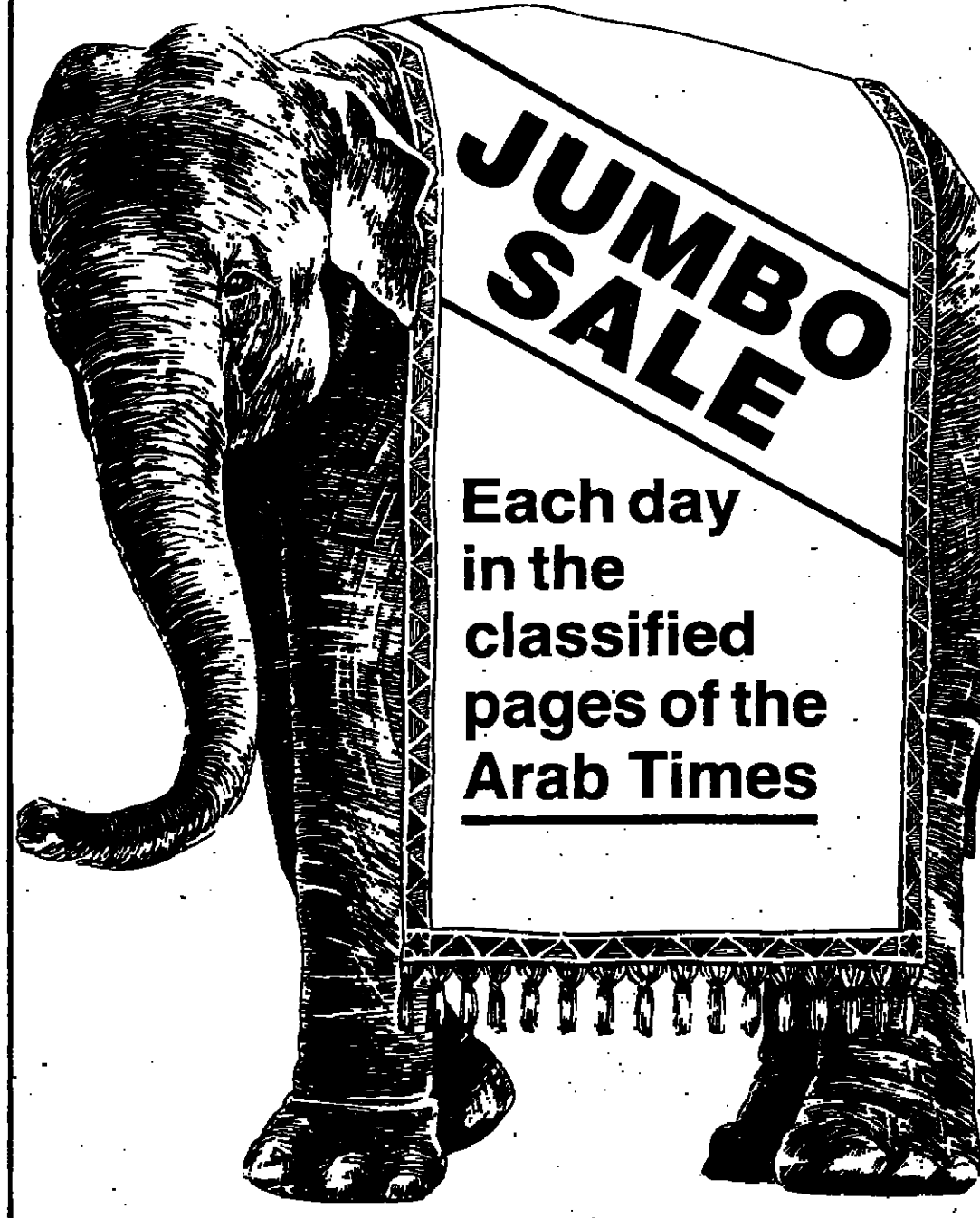
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SHOAIB AND MIANDAD HIT CENTURIES AGAINST NEW ZEALAND

Pakistan dawdle to 401 for four



Mian Mohammad Aslam gets his 20th Test ton

WELLINGTON, Feb. 13. (Reuters): Playing tediously slow cricket Pakistan crept to 401 for four wickets in reply to New Zealand's 447 at the close of play on the fourth day of the second cricket Test today.

Pakistan began the day at 205 for two.

Shoaib Mohammed, playing the slowest 150 in Test history, ensured that a draw could be the only possible result.

Coming in 30 minutes after the start of Pakistan's innings yesterday, Shoaib batted through both days to be undefeated on 159. He scored just 70 today.

Difficult

With him at the close was his captain, Imran Khan, who also found scoring initially difficult on the slow and flat pitch.

Imran lived the dull day at the end taking 16 off a Danny Morrison over the pace man took the third new ball of the innings. Next over, he smashed Ewen Chatfield for six over long on. Imran was not out on 52.

Shoaib, emulating his famous father Hanif who once scored 337 in 970 minutes, took 10 hours and 24 minutes to bring up his

150. The last 50 took two minutes under five hours. At one stage he went scoreless for 90 minutes. Shoaib has so far batted for 668 minutes.

The previous slowest 150 was scored by England's Clive Radley who took 648 minutes to score 158 at Auckland in 1978.

Shoaib's 150 included 15 fours and one six. He went for 140 minutes in the afternoon without hitting a boundary.

The century was his second in Test cricket and was the longest first-class innings in New Zealand history. He nought up his 1,000 runs in Test cricket during this 21st match.

Earlier in the day, Javed Miandad completed his 20th Test century. On 87 overnight, Miandad took just 20 minutes to bring up his 100.

His innings was notable for his cutting and running between wickets. With Shoaib, he headed a record 220 for the third wicket surpassing by 12 his own record with Mudassar Nazar against New Zealand set in Hyderabad in 1984/85. Miandad was finally lbw to Richard Hadlee for 118. Salim Malik was the only bats-

man other than Imran to try to take the attack to New Zealand. He hit 38 out of the 51-run partnership with Shoaib. After batting through the post-lunch session, Malik flicked one off John Bracewell for wicket-keeper Ian Smith to take the leg-side catch.

Bracewell bowled a long spell after lunch and although he got some slow turn and was accurate, he seldom seriously troubled the batsmen.

The best of bowlers was again Hadlee. He was two for 85 off 46 overs.

Scoreboard

NEW ZEALAND first innings 447
PAKISTAN first innings:
Mudassar Nazar c and b Morrison... 6
Khanzai... 18
Shoaib Mohammed not out... 159
Javed Miandad lbw Hadlee... 118
Salim Malik c Smith b Bracewell... 38
Imran Khan not out... 52
Extras (lb-7 nb-3)... 10
Total for four wickets... 401
Overs 179
Fall of wickets: 1-14 2-54 3-274 4-325
Yet to bat: Asim Malik, Salim Yousaf, Abdul Qadir, Salim Jaffer, Asim Javed.
Bowling: Hadlee 46-13-85-2 (nb-3), Morrison 36-10-96-1 (nb-1), Chatfield 45-28-63-8, Bracewell 40-8-123-1, Patel 12-3-27-0.

Sloop beats 135-year-old record by eight days

SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 13. (AP): The racing sloop Thursday's Child sailed triumphantly under the Golden Gate Bridge yesterday after a voyage from New York City by way of Cape Horn that shattered a 135-year-old record for sailing ships by eight days.

The 60-foot sloop crossed the finish line at 12:32 pm (2032 GMT) and was met by cheers and yells from hundreds of spectators. Thursday's Child set sail Nov. 23.

The three crew members were all on deck and waved to the crowd after bettering the record set by the 229-foot clipper ship Flying Cloud's 89-day trip of 1854—just after the discovery of gold in California that spurred rapid settlement.

The crew decided to dock at Blossom Rock, about 2 miles from the Golden Gate, because they said the submerged point is where old clipper ships used to drop anchor.

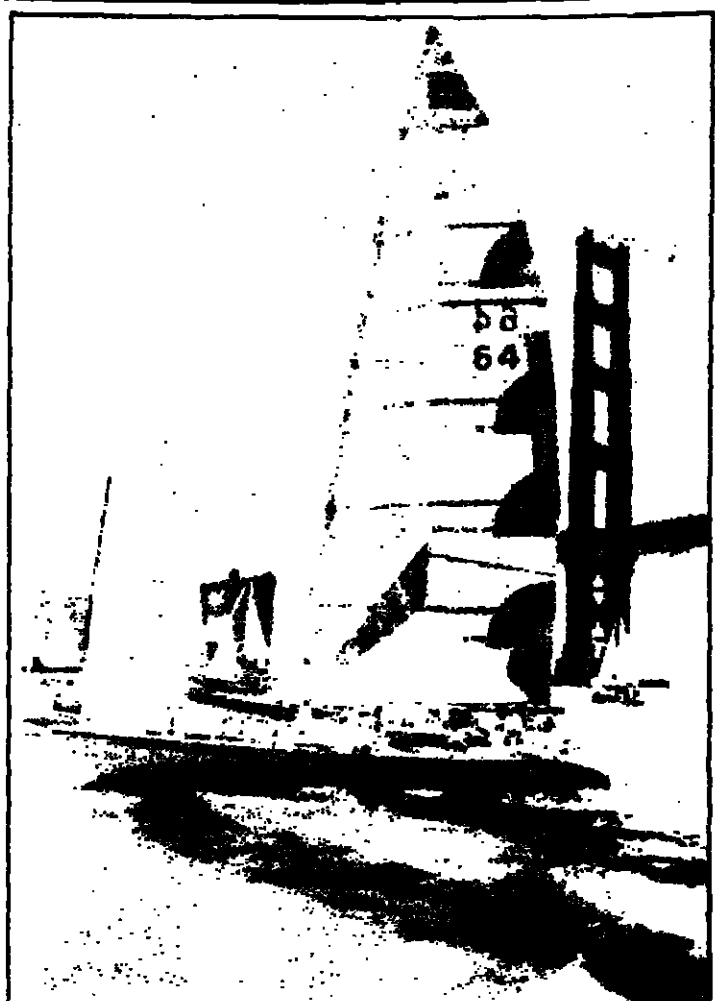
Gathered

About 80 ships were out on San Francisco Bay to greet the yacht, while other spectators gathered on the roof of Fort Point and at the south tower of the Golden Gate Bridge. A biplane flew overhead trailing a sign that read: "We love you TC."

Thursday's Child's entrance into the bay was delayed for hours by a four-knot (four nautical mile an hour) outgoing tide and by a lack of wind that had left the crew frustrated.

The crew tried everything, including putting out a large sail called spinnaker, but all its sails drooped. Finally, under a cloudless sky the yacht found enough wind to sail under the Golden Gate.

In a ship-to-shore interview earlier yesterday, crew member



Thursday's Child sails past the Golden Gate Bridge and into the San Francisco Bay. (Reuters wirephoto)

Courtney Hazleton told the Associated Press he had "that coming-home feeling."

"It's a kind of like a mixed bag of emotions right now," said Hazleton. "Both relief, letdown, that the whole thing's over, and just a general feeling of accomplishment."

The crew — Hazleton, 32; skipper-owner Warren Luhrs, 44; and Lars Bergstrom, 54, who helped design the vessel — had spent Saturday zig-zagging north against a stubborn headwind that delayed the ship's arrival by one day.

The Flying Cloud was a mer-

chant ship that also ferried gold rush adventurers around the dangerous Cape Horn at the tip of South America and up to San Francisco. It could carry 35 sails on its tall masts and was the fastest of thousands of clippers that raced each other across the Atlantic and Pacific.

The ship wrecked on rocks off St. Johns, Newfoundland, in 1874 and nothing is left of it.

In the past seven years, similar fates have met five racing boats trying to beat Flying Cloud's record, but they were sunk in the howling gales and treacherous rocks of Cape Horn.

NBA ROUNDUP

Malone helps West tame East

HOUSTON, Feb. 13. (AP): The National Basketball Association's West All-star team didn't have Magic Johnson, but Karl Malone and John Stockton created some magic of their own yesterday, carrying the West to a 143-134 victory over the East.

Stockton, the only point guard on the West team after scheduled starter Magic Johnson was injured on Wednesday night, directed a record-breaking attack in the first half, wowing a record all-star crowd at the Astrodome.

Close

The West led by as many as 31 points en route to an 87-59 half-time lead, breaking by one the all-star record for points in a half set by the West in 1962. The East set a record by scoring in the fourth quarter before faltering.

Stockton had an All-star record nine assists in the first quarter, breaking Johnson's 1984 mark of eight, although he didn't play the last 3:18.

Malone, Stockton's Utah Jazz teammate, scored 18 of his 28 points in the first half and was 8-for-9 from the field in the first two periods, most of them on dunks or featherly layups. Malone was selected the game's Most Valuable Player.

Dale Ellis scored 27 points and Alex English 16 for the West. Stockton finished with 11 points and 17 assists.

Michael Jordan scored 12 of his 28 points in the fourth quarter to lead the East, which still leads the All-star series 25-14. The East had won seven of the previous nine games. Isiah Thomas added 19 points and 14 assists for the East.

Missing

Kareem Abdul Jabbar, in his 20th and last season, appeared in his 18th All-star game, missing his first five shots and scoring four points. He set the career All-star scoring record last year.

The attendance of 44,735 broke the All-star record of 43,146 at the Indianapolis Hoosier Dome in 1985.

Sooners score 27th straight home win

Oklahoma struggle past Arizona

NEW YORK, Feb. 13. (AP): Billy Tubbs thinks highly of the Arizona basketball team — but only as a reflection of his Oklahoma Sooners' glory.

"Any team that can come in here and play us that close has got to be a final four team," Tubbs said of Arizona following yesterday's 82-80 Oklahoma victory.

The victory also earned Oklahoma the top spot in the Associated Press poll — the fifth time in as many weeks that the lead has changed.

Arizona, Duke, Illinois and Oklahoma have been bounced from No. 1 in four consecutive weeks. For three straight weeks, the nation's three highest ranked teams have each lost.

In other games yesterday, UCLA beat No. 4 Louisville 77-75. No. 6 North Carolina defeated Virginia 85-67. No. 13 Indiana got past Purdue 64-62. No. 19 Nevada-Las Vegas defeated No. 17 North Carolina State 79-70 and No. 18 Stanford beat Washington 82-74 in overtime.

On Saturday, Pittsburgh stopped No. 2 Georgetown 79-74. No. 3 Missouri beat Kansas 93-80. No. 7 Illinois topped Northwestern 86-89. Wisconsin surprised No. 9 Iowa 65-54. No. 9 Syracuse trounced St. John's 92-69. Minnesota tumbled No. 10 Michigan 88-80. No. 11 Seton Hall defeated Villanova 83-77. No. 14 Duke routed Maryland 86-60. No. 15 West Virginia beat Penn State 100-67. No. 16 Ohio

State held off Michigan State 81-75, and No. 20 Georgia Tech topped Wake Forest 75-70.

Oklahoma, 21-3, won its 27th straight home game. That includes a 112-105 victory over third-ranked Missouri earlier in the week. This week the Sooners play at Kansas and Colorado.

Arizona slipped to 18-3. Last season, Oklahoma beat the Wildcats 86-78 in the NCAA semifinals.

Sean Elliott, who scored 26 points for the Wildcats, thinks so. "When we play Arizona basketball, we're as good as any team in the nation, if not better," he said. "Obviously you want to win, but we earned some respect for our team and our conference."

UCLA 77, No. 4 Louisville 75. Louisville's Pervis Ellison was called for goaltending with one second left as UCLA rallied to beat the visiting Cardinals.

No. 8 North Carolina 85, Virginia 67.

Steve Bucknall scored 19 points and North Carolina averaged a 106-83 loss at Virginia last month. The Tar Heels, 19-5 and 6-3 in the Atlantic Coast Conference, made eight of its first 11 shots and won easily.

No. 13 Indiana 64, Purdue 62. Jay Edwards made an 18-foot jump shot with four seconds left, capping Indiana's rally from an 11-point deficit in the second half.

Timmermann sets European best

EAST BERLIN, Feb. 13. (Reuters): Olympic champion Ulf Timmermann set a European indoor shot record of 22.55 metres at East Germany's indoor athletics championships at the weekend.

His effort battered the previous mark, set by Switzerland's Werner Günthör, by 0.29 of a metre and was just 0.11 short of the indoor world record of 22.66 established by American Randy Barnes two weeks ago.

Timmermann, a 26-year-old economics student, was one of the few East German Olympic team athletes to take part in the championships at Senftenberg. Most of the East Germans

who shone at the Seoul Games are preparing for the outdoor circuit or have quit.

Coaches had been hoping junior athletes would emerge at the championships to fill the gaps left by those stars. But only triple junior world champion Grit Breuer showed any hint of world class, although her 200 metres time of 23.26 seconds was not outstanding.

Nearest

For the most part it was the few experienced athletes present who set the pace at the championships, being used to select East Germany's team for the European Championship in The Hague.

Beate Anders, the country's best woman walker, clocked 12 minutes 19.54 seconds over 3,000 metres to beat her nearest rival by more than a minute.

But even her performance was well below par. She set an indoor world record of 12:02.02 for the distance two weeks ago.

Christine Wachtel, Olympic silver medalist in the 800 metres, turned in a respectable time of 2:00.37 over the same distance and easily won the national title.

In her first race of the season Cornelia Oschkenat, third in the 100 metres hurdles at the 1987 World Championships, ran a classy 60 metres hurdles, winning in 7.93 seconds.

Nierlich captures men's slalom gold

VAIL, Colorado, Feb. 13. (AP): Austria's Rudolf Nierlich, a virtual unknown outside of the World Cup circuit, won his second gold medal, capturing the men's slalom yesterday in the final event of the World Alpine Ski Championships.

Nierlich, winner of the giant slalom on Thursday, overtook first-run slalom leader Armin Bittner of West Germany with a quick second run down a course with extremely tight gate placements.

Nierlich, 22, had an aggregate time of 2 minutes, 2.85 seconds, nearly a half-second faster than Bittner's 2:03.29. Marc Girardelli of Luxembourg, third after the first run, maintained his position and won the bronze medal in 2:03.65.

Felled

Paul Accola of Switzerland was fourth in 2:03.80 and Jonas Nilsson of Sweden fifth in 2:03.87.

The treacherous second course felled seven of the first 10 skiers out of the gate, including Swedish great Ingemar Stenmark. The tamer first run, meanwhile, knocked out five skiers from the first seed, including Italy's Alberto Tomba and Swit-



Nierlich (centre) has his arms raised by Bittner (left) and Girardelli. (Reuters wirephoto)

zerland's Pirmin Zurbriggen.

Tomba, the two-time Olympic gold medalist who was making his final bid for a medal in these championships, straddled a gate about 10 seconds from the finish and fell. Zurbriggen fell only five seconds into his run. Defending world slalom champion Frank Woerndl of West Germany, Austria's Bernhard Gsell and top American hope Felix McGrath all missed gates while descending

a steep face toward the finish in the first run.

Despite McGrath's exit, two other Americans were in contention for top 15 finishes. Bob Ormsby of Tahoe City, California, stood 11th after the first run, and Kyle Wieche of Farmington, Connecticut, was 14th. But both fell in their second runs.

Nierlich, winner of two World Cup races this season and three in his four-year career on the cir-

cuit, had the second-fastest time in the second run of 1:05.28, trailing only Nilsson's 1:05.07.

Bittner, who led Nierlich by just 25-hundredths of a second heading into the second run, lost time on the steep pitch toward the finish that featured one particularly difficult gate and was clocked in 1:05.97.

His gold medal was the third of the championships for the Austrians, who tied the powerful Swiss. Switzerland finished first in total medals, however, with 11 compared to Austria's six. West Germany was a surprising third with four medals.

Form

"To win the world title you have to combine luck, good material and good form — and I had all three of them today," Nierlich said.

"I run in every race for victory. In every race I take risks. I skied well today. The second run was extremely difficult. It was easy to drop out, and I was lucky to have finished."

Bittner said he "wasn't aggressive enough on the second run, which was extremely difficult. Nierlich is the strongest at the moment, and he deserved the victory."

Punjab rout Kheitan in friendly



Amer Aslam

PUNJAB Farwania Cricket Club thrashed Kheitan Senior Club by 50 runs in a friendly one-day cricket match earlier this week.

Punjab, batting first, scored 187. Amer Aslam was the top scorer with 74, which he made with the help of nine fours and four sixes.

Sharafat hit 35, Asif 33, Amjad 26 and Raza 15.

Kheitan ran into some accurate bowling by Punjab skipper Mohammed Amjad when they batted. Amjad took five wickets as Kheitan could only manage to score 137.

Sharafat chipped in with two wickets as did Raza. Tariq captured one wicket.

Converse to host chess tournament

SPARTANBURG, South Carolina, Feb. 13. (AP): Converse College has been chosen to host the 1989 US Women's Championship chess tournament this summer, an organizer said.

The invitational tournament to be held July 5-17 will feature the top 10 ranked women in the United States, said Dr. Spencer Mathews, a member of the Spartanburg Chess Club.

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Asim overwhelm Hilti

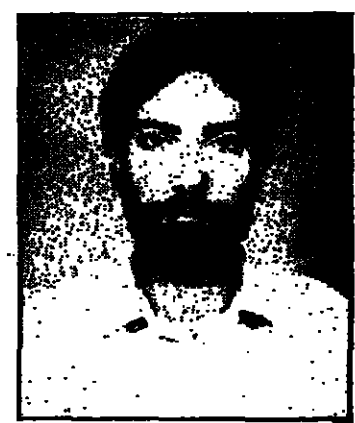
ASIM Cricket Club beat Hilti Cricket Club by eight wickets in a Gulf Cricket League match at the new EPI ground on Friday.

Batting first, Hilti scored 105 for the loss of eight wickets in the 22 allotted overs. For Asim, Saif-ur-Rehman took four wickets for 18 runs. Zahid, Mustafa and Tariq took one wicket each.

Remained

Asim found the going easy. Arshad Butt and Mustafa put on 47 runs for the first wicket before the latter was out for 23.

Mustafa remained unbeaten on 32 while Farhat also hit 32 as Asim went past the target for the loss of only two wickets in 13.2 overs. Saif-ur-Rehman was



Saif-ur-Rehman named Man of the Match. Asim meet YMCA in the next round.

Crescent beat Flying Arrows

CRESCENT Cricket Club beat Flying Arrows by 23 runs in a Jashammal Trophy match at the Ahmadi ground on Friday.

Batting first, Crescent scored 180 for nine in their 30 overs. Shahid was the top scorer with 70 while Arshad hit 42, Maqbool 27 and Amjad 15.

In reply, Flying Arrows were

in trouble right from the start and were not allowed to settle down by the Crescent bowlers. Flying Arrows were finally all out for 156.

Maqbool was the Crescent bowler who did the most damage by taking five wickets for 32 runs. He got some valuable support from Zagar and Naem who captured one wicket each.

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SPORTS BRIEFS

Royals Trophy

THE final of the "Rothmans Royals Trophy," organised by Unity Cricketers, will be played on Friday at the New Ground in Ahmadi. Starline meet Unity in this full day encounter consisting of 45 overs. Starting time 0900 am. Umpires will be from Kokan, Morning Star. The chief guest is Aref Essa, marketing manager, Tobacco Exporters International.

Marathon race

KUWAIT, (KUNA): The Ahmadi Governorate is organising a marathon race on Tuesday, February 21, as part of activities marking Kuwait's 28th National Day. Entries will be accepted from today at the three sports clubs in Ahmadi.

Tottenham fined

LONDON, Feb 13, (UPI): Tottenham has been fined £200 (\$350) by the Football League for arriving late for its English soccer league First Division match at Charlton on Oct 8, 1988.

London race

LONDON, Feb 13, (UPI): Britain's Veronique Marot and Kenyan Richard Kaitany, winners of the Houston marathon last month, will both run in the London marathon on April 23.

Steve Overt

LONDON, Feb 13, (UPI): Former Olympic champion Steve Overt has entered the Scottish Cross Country Championships at Hawick on Feb 25. Overt, 33, was seventh in a regional championship last month, his first cross country race in more than five years.

New board

KUWAIT, Feb 13, (KUNA): Information Minister and acting minister of Social Affairs and Labour Sheikh Jaber Mubarak today issued a decision dissolving the board of the Al Arabi Sports Club and appointing an interim eight-man board in its place.

Irish player

DUBLIN, Feb 13, (Reuters): Left wing Keith Crossan is suffering from concussion and has been ruled out of the Irish team to play England in the Five Nations Rugby Union championship match in Dublin on Saturday.

Stadium banned

ZURICH, Switzerland, Feb 13, (AP): FIFA, world soccer's governing body, indefinitely banned the stadium at Limassol, Cyprus, for international games today and opened an inquiry into a near-riot there after last Wednesday's Cyprus-Scotland World Cup qualifier.

Bjorn Borg

STOCKHOLM, Sweden, Feb 13, (AP): Calling rumours that he tried to commit suicide "ridiculous," five-time Wimbledon champion Bjorn Borg expressed optimism about his future. Borg was hospitalized in Italy last week and had his stomach pumped. The incident first was reported as a possible suicide attempt.

Poland triumph

GUATEMALA CITY, Feb 13, (AP): Poland beat Guatemala 1-0 yesterday in a practice match toward the 1990 World Cup soccer competition in Italy.

Bowman wins

BALTIMORE, Feb 13, (AP): Chris Bowman scored past Danny Doran in yesterday's free skate to win his first US Figure Skating Championship.

WORLD NO. 1 SURVIVES ROCKY START

Lendl beats Gilbert for title



Lendl collects \$60,000

CHICAGO, Feb 13, (AP): Ivan Lendl survived a rocky start and a close finish in a baseline battle with Brad Gilbert yesterday to claim a 6-2, 7-6 (7-3) victory and \$350,000 Volvo tennis tournament title.

The world's top-ranked player came in against Gilbert after staving off two match points in a late Saturday night semifinal victory over defending champion Tim Mayotte, and looked lethargic early on.

Easier

Fortunately for Lendl, the 20th-ranked Gilbert wasn't much sharper, although he had an easier semifinal match against Horacio de la Pena.

Gilbert lost his opening service yesterday despite delivering two of his five aces and one of five service winners he collected on the day.

Lendl gave the break back in the next game, but Gilbert lost the last four points on his next service — three on unforced errors — and Lendl quickly turned the 2-1 advantage into a decisive 5-2 edge with another

break in the seventh game.

He served for the set and won it with a backhand passing shot that was typical of his dominant ground strokes at that juncture of the match.

And when Lendl broke Gilbert in the opening game of the second set, he appeared on the fast track towards the \$60,000 first-place prize.

But Gilbert, who came into the match having lost all 14 previous meetings against the Czech, broke back on Lendl's second serve of the set, held his serve after winning an exchange of volleys at the net, and again broke Lendl in the sixth game for a 4-2 lead.

It turned out to be short-lived. Lendl capitalised on three unforced errors by Gilbert in the next game, drew even at 4-4, and held on as the match stayed on service into the tie-breaker.

Then, Lendl won the first three points, rolled quickly to a 6-3 advantage, before winning the match with a cleverly disguised half-volley of the forehand side. Gilbert received \$25,000.

Mattar wins Guarujá Open

GUARUJA, Brazil, Feb 13, (Reuters): Brazil's number one racket Luiz Mattar overcame a sore ankle to beat American Jimmy Brown 7-6 (13-11) 6-4 to win the \$130,000 Guarujá Open tennis tournament for the third consecutive year, yesterday.

Mattar, the top seed, had earned his spot in the final with an easy 6-3 6-2 victory over Peruvian Jaime Yzaga, the third seed, in one of the semifinals, played in the morning.

Brown had a tougher time against Brazilian Danilo Marcelino in the other semifinal, winning in three sets 1-6 6-1 6-2.

The semifinals were played in the morning because of a series of postponements, forced by constant rains throughout the week

at the Jequitimar Hotel in this tourist resort.

For his victory, Mattar collected \$20,000 plus 50 points in the Nabisco Grand Prix. Brown received \$10,000.

In the first set, both players held service until the 12th game, demanding a tie-break. Mattar took it 13-11.

In the second set, with Brown showing signs of fatigue, Mattar broke the American's service in the seventh game to take a 4-3 lead. He then went to close the set and the match 6-4.

In the doubles quarterfinals yesterday, two matches were not held, because of no show. Peruvian Jaime Yzaga and American Todd Witsken failed to report for their match against

Brazil's Nelson Aerts and Alexandre Heccevar.

Eduardo Bengoechea of Argentina and Brazilian Jose Amin Daher, who had to travel, also lost by walk-over against Brazilians Cassio Motta and Luiz Mattar.

The biggest upset of the day was set by Brazil's Mauro Menezes and Cesar Kist, who beat Argentina's Jose Luis Clerc and Javier Frana 7-6 (7-5) 3-6 6-3.

In the last quarterfinals doubles match, Brazil's Riccardo Acioly and Dacio Campos beat Canadian Martin Wostenholme and Brazilian Eduardo Furuchio 6-2 4-6 6-3.

The doubles semifinals and final were scheduled for this evening.

Evert crushes Navratilova for \$110,000 prize



Chris Evert

MEMPHIS, Tennessee, Feb 13, (AP): After an uncharacteristic pair of double faults in the first game of the match, Chris Evert recovered to post a 6-1, 6-4 victory over Martina Navratilova in a ladies tennis exhibition yesterday at the Racquet Club of Memphis.

Evert, the No. 3 player in the world, collected \$110,000 for the victory, while Navratilova, ranked No. 2, earned \$55,000. Evert had her serve broken at love in the first game of the match, but rallied in game two to break Navratilova with a backhand down the line to even the set at 1-1.

But Fouroux's controversial tactic of replacing the hooker with a third prop-forward to produce a pile-driving pack appears to have been dropped with the selection of veteran hooker Philippe Dintrans.

Meanwhile, French Rugby Union selectors made five changes in the team to face Wales. The changes to the side which beat Ireland 26-21 in the opening round of the Five Nations Championship were partly dictated by injuries, team coach Jacques Fouroux said.

But Fouroux's controversial tactic of replacing the hooker with a third prop-forward to produce a pile-driving pack appears to have been dropped with the selection of veteran hooker Philippe Dintrans.

Evert capitalised on a number of unforced errors by Navratilova in the second set and was effective with her passing shots and a strong serve and she won three games at love.

Evert got the only break she needed in the fifth game of the second set, beating Navratilova with a backhand down the line after making a solid return of a Navratilova overhead.

Mitchell successfully defended his crown, also known as super featherweight, on Saturday night with an eighth round knockout of Italy's Salvatore Bottiglieri in



Graf had total control of the match

Graf routs Shriver

AUBURN HILLS, Michigan, Feb 13, (UPI): Top-ranked Steffi Graf of West Germany crushed Pam Shriver, 6-2, 6-0, yesterday as Europe completed a rout of the United States in the Euro-America's Cup tennis tournament.

The Europeans won 10 of 11 matches in the four-day event at the palace and took the team scoring 46-1. Varying point values were assigned to each match, and Graf's victory was worth 12.

Pulled The team totals include a two-point default by Tracy Austin in yesterday's finale against Soviet Larisa Savchenko. Austin won the first set 6-3 and was tied 2-2 in the second set when she pulled out because of a hip injury.

Graf served three aces in the first game and remained in total control the rest of the way. Shriver committed 25 unforced errors to Graf's nine and Shriver, who snapped the West German's 46-match winning streak in

November, also double-faulted seven times.

"I thought it was going to be a lot closer," said Graf, who lost to Shriver 6-3, 7-6 in their last meeting at the Virginia Slims Championships in New York.

"It came down to game plan, execution and preparation," Shriver said. "My preparation wasn't there. But I think the tennis was interesting. People have to look at more than the 6-2, 6-0."

The double-faults finally caught up with Shriver. She double-faulted twice as Graf broke her to win the first set. She double-faulted three more times to fall behind 2-0 in the second set and double-faulted on match point.

"Pam, you need to practice your serve," Shriver was heard to say to herself during the second set.

The tournament drew an announced crowd of 8,778 yesterday and approximately 25,000 for the four days.

RIYADH, Saudi Arabia, Feb 13, (AP): Soccer passion is high across Saudi Arabia as the nation counts down to the fifth World Youth Soccer Cup tournament opening here on Thursday.

Sixteen teams are coming from the Soviet Union, the United States, East Germany, Czechoslovakia, Brazil, Argentina, Colombia, Costa Rica, Mali, Nigeria, Portugal, Spain, Norway, Saudi Arabia, Syria and Iraq.

The final is scheduled for March 3 in Riyadh, the capital. The preliminary games will be in four major cities — Riyadh, Jeddah on the Red Sea, a mountainous resort on the western side of the kingdom called Taif and Dammam on the eastern Gulf coast.

Prince Faisal bin Fahd, the son of King Fahd, is responsible for organizing the tournament, which is for players under 21 years old. On Saturday, he began a last-minute inspection of the sites.

He also introduced a political note to the games by announcing that half the price of each ticket — one riyal (about 25 cents) — would aid the Muslim guerrillas fighting Afghanistan's Soviet-backed government. Other charities also will benefit from

ticket sales, he said.

Saudi Arabia, the home of Islam's two holiest shrines at Makkah and Medina staunchly supports the guerrillas.

The championship is a major event in the kingdom, the prince said at a press conference. It is "up to the youth of the kingdom to gain maximum benefit from this tournament," he said.

Abdul-Fattah Nazer, in charge of the local committee of Jeddah, said everybody was trying to make the event "the best organized youth World Cup."

The teams have been divided into four groups for the preliminary round. They are: Group A — Saudi Arabia, Nigeria, Portugal and Czechoslovakia — at the King Fahd International Stadium in Riyadh, with a capacity of 70,000.

Group B — Soviet Union, Syria, Costa Rica and Colombia, in Dammam at the main Prince Saud Bin Jalawi Stadium, capacity 25,000.

Group C — United States, Brazil, Mali and East Germany, at Jeddah's Youth Welfare Stadium, with a capacity of 35,000.

Group D — Argentina, Norway, Iraq and Spain at Taif's King Fahd Sport City ground, capacity 25,000.

Schrader finishes first at Daytona

DAYTONA BEACH, Florida, Feb 13, (AP): Ken Schrader led 15 of the 20 laps and collected \$75,000 yesterday for winning the Busch Clash at Daytona International Speedway.

Schrader, driving a Chevrolet Monte Carlo, outdrew the Ford Thunderbirds of Davey Allison and Terry Labonte in winning the 50-mile sprint race for last year's pole winners.

Schrader picked the pole position in the blind draw for starting spots in the 15-car race and led the first three laps before Hendrick Motorsports teammate Darrell Waltrip grabbed the top spot.

Waltrip, also in a Monte Carlo, stayed out front, just ahead of Schrader, until the ninth lap, when Schrader again powered ahead.

This time, the Daytona 500 pole-winner stayed in front, easily fending off the challenges of Allison and Labonte, beating Allison to the finish line by two car lengths.

Allison, who also finished second to his father, Bobby, in last year's Daytona 500, said, "It was tough out there. I tried three or four times to get around him, but I couldn't. The car got loose a little near the end."

Wales choose Evans in bid to reverse decline

CARDIFF, Feb 13, (Reuters): Wales, seeking to reverse their abysmal decline, sprang a big surprise today when they named uncapped centre David Evans for the Five Nations Rugby Union match against France in Paris on Saturday.

Evans, 23, who plays for Cardiff and Oxford University, was not even in the training squad preparing for the championship in Spain last month.

He will partner Bridgend and Cambridge University back Mike Hall, moving from the wing to his preferred position at centre.

The pair were on opposite sides in this season's varsity match, with Evans scoring one of Oxford's tries in their 27-7 win.

His shock international selection was one of five changes from the side beaten 19-13 at home by Ireland 10 days ago. Wales' sixth defeat in their last seven internationals.

The selectors, bowing to public opinion, restored line-out ace Robert Norster for his 33rd cap while flyhalf Paul Turner will win his first cap.

Wing forward Gary Jones was recalled for his second international outing and his first in the five nations championship. Llanelli clubmate Carwyn

Davies, who played the second half of the Ireland game, was the other newcomer.

Meanwhile, French Rugby Union selectors made five changes in the team to face Wales.

The changes to the side which beat Ireland 26-21 in the opening round of the Five Nations Championship were partly dictated by injuries, team coach Jacques Fouroux said.

But Fouroux's controversial tactic of replacing the hooker with a third prop-forward to produce a pile-driving pack appears to have been dropped with the selection of veteran hooker Philippe Dintrans.

WALE: Paul Thorburn (captain), Iwan Evans, Mike Hall, David Evans, Carwyn Davies, Paul Turner, Robert Jones, Mark Jones, Rob Norster, Gary Jones, Phil Davies, David Bryant, Mike Griffiths, Ian Watkins, Laurence Delaney.

FRANCE: Serge Blanco; Jean-Baptiste Lafont, Philippe Sella, Marc Andreu, Patrice Lagisquet; Franck Mesnel; Pierre Berbizier (captain); Alain Carnati, Dominique Erban, Eric Champ, Alain Lorieux, Jean Condom, Pascal Ondarts, Philippe Dintrans, Louis Armary.

Inter suffer first defeat of season

ROME, Feb 13, (Reuters): Internazionale Milan's first League defeat of the season at the weekend opened up the race for the Italian soccer championship and left them only one point ahead of challengers Napoli, who had to come from behind to win.

In the space of 28 minutes, Inter slipped from a 3-2 lead over Fiorentina to a 4-3 defeat, while Napoli climbed back from a goal down at home to Como to win 3-2.

Inter now have 28 points from 17 matches against Napoli's 27.

Humiliation "Something went wrong and we lost our concentration. But a touch of humiliation can only do us good," Inter defender Riccardo Ferri said.

It was Inter's second defeat of the season by Fiorentina, who are lying 10 points behind them. In September the Florence club eliminated them from the Italian Cup, also by 4-3.

Napoli were lucky to scrape through against Como and there was bad news for them afterwards.

Team doctor Emilio Acampora told reporters that Argen-



Diego Maradona

ine World Cup captain Diego Maradona had taken another knock to the left knee that has been troubling him for several weeks and almost kept him on the bench yesterday.

West German midfielder Bernd Schuster finally struck top form as Real Madrid produced a dazzling display to demolish Sporting 5-1 and stay one point clear at the top in Spain.

Schuster, something of a disappointment since moving from Barcelona at the start of the season, showed his true class and was responsible for setting up the first of two goals.

The Spanish press were unanimous in their praise for the West German but it was the performance of the team as a whole that delighted coach Leo Beenhakker.

"It wasn't just Schuster. The whole team were playing quite a lot better than they have done in the past few matches. We had a few defensive errors, but the attack was very good, very fast."

Barcelona are one point behind having played one game more, but are the only side with a realistic chance of overhauling Real and they kept their chances alive with 2-0 win over last-placed Elche.

But it was dull in comparison and even coach Johan Cruyff admitted, "It wasn't a very exciting game."

Dutch First Division leaders Ajax maintained their three-point lead over PSV but both teams came in for criticism after

lacklustre draws.

Ajax, missing key striker Stefan Pettersson and defender Danny Blind through injury, were held to a goalless draw by visiting PSV.

PSV, also weakened by the absence of Berry van Aerle because of illness and Czechoslovak Josef Chovanec, still prevented from making his debut because of injury, could manage no more than a 1-1 draw away to Volendam.

Chance In France, Marseille strengthened their title challenge and have a chance to take the lead next Saturday.

They dispatched Strasbourg 3-1 while League leaders Paris Saint-Germain struggled to a scoreless draw at home to middle of the table Toulon.

Next weekend Marseille should pick up maximum points against low-lying Laval while Paris Saint-Germain can expect a much tougher time against their hosts, third-placed Auxerre. A win for Marseille and defeat for the Paris club would put the former into first place on goal difference.

Mitchell wants to face Nelson

CAPO D'ORLANDO, Sicily, Feb 13, (AP): World Boxing Association junior lightweight champion Brian Mitchell says he would like to meet rival World Boxing Council champion Azumah Nelson in a bout to unify the division title.

Mitchell successfully defended his crown, also known as super featherweight, on Saturday night with an eighth round knockout of Italy's Salvatore Bottiglieri in

Capo d'Orlando, Sicily.

Mitchell will take on Mexico's Mario Martinez, the No. 1 WBA contender, in a mandatory title defense in early April. If Mitchell wins, he will pursue the Nelson bout.

Mitchell, a South African native, will have to overcome a couple of technical hurdles before he steps into the ring with the dangerous Nelson.

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